

<p>1 Monday, 9 August 2021</p> <p>2 (10.00 am)</p> <p>3 (In the presence of the jury)</p> <p>4 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.</p> <p>5 MR HOUGH: Yes, so today's first witness is BX88, and</p> <p>6 an anonymised witness.</p> <p>7 The officer should be entering through the rear of</p> <p>8 the court.</p> <p>9 (Pause)</p> <p>10 BX88 (sworn)</p> <p>11 Questions by MR HOUGH</p> <p>12 MR HOUGH: Before I begin questioning the witness, may</p> <p>13 I just confirm that this is a witness who has been</p> <p>14 anonymised, being referred to as BX88, and for whom the</p> <p>15 special measures as I indicated before the jury came in</p> <p>16 apply. As you've indicated to the jury in the past,</p> <p>17 that shouldn't affect the way they assess his evidence.</p> <p>18 First of all, officer, you have been sworn. Could</p> <p>19 you please confirm that you are the officer identified</p> <p>20 in these proceedings as BX88?</p> <p>21 A. I am sir, yes.</p> <p>22 Q. You appreciate I'm asking you questions first on behalf</p> <p>23 of the coroner?</p> <p>24 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p>25 Q. Could you tell us first your rank and the force and</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 1</p>	<p>1 a strategic firearms commander?</p> <p>2 A. I believe that was end of 2018.</p> <p>3 Q. Would you please summarise in a sentence or two what the</p> <p>4 job of a strategic firearms commander is in relation to</p> <p>5 a firearms operation, whether it be spontaneous or</p> <p>6 pre-planned.</p> <p>7 A. So, as a strategic firearms officer, a strategic</p> <p>8 firearms commander, my responsibility is for the</p> <p>9 assessment of applications for armed deployments where</p> <p>10 submission is made to me by the tactical firearms</p> <p>11 commander to authorise the deployment of armed officers.</p> <p>12 Q. May that include arming an existing surveillance team?</p> <p>13 A. Yes, it would sir, yes.</p> <p>14 Q. Now, on Saturday the 1st and Sunday 2nd February 2020,</p> <p>15 were you the day duty strategic firearms commander for</p> <p>16 London?</p> <p>17 A. I was indeed, yes.</p> <p>18 Q. What did that role involve?</p> <p>19 A. So I was the officer who had strategic command of all</p> <p>20 armed resources for London throughout their tour of duty</p> <p>21 and then command responsibility for any authorised armed</p> <p>22 deployments within that period. It's a 12-hour shift.</p> <p>23 Q. So a 12-hour shift, when would it commence on each of</p> <p>24 those two days?</p> <p>25 A. Formal commencement time is 7 am through to 7 pm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 3</p>
<p>1 department in which you serve?</p> <p>2 A. Yes, I am a police superintendent. I work for the</p> <p>3 Metropolitan Police within the Specialist Firearms</p> <p>4 Command, Mo19.</p> <p>5 Q. Is it right, in terms of your role in the investigation</p> <p>6 we are concerned with, that you were the strategic</p> <p>7 firearms commander for Operation Osmious concerned with</p> <p>8 Sudesh Amman on Saturday the 1st and Sunday 2nd February</p> <p>9 2020?</p> <p>10 A. That's correct sir.</p> <p>11 Q. A little about your background first of all.</p> <p>12 When did you first join police service?</p> <p>13 A. I joined the police service in 1993.</p> <p>14 Q. In the intervening 27 or 28 years, broadly what kinds of</p> <p>15 roles have you performed?</p> <p>16 A. A variety of operational front-line policing roles</p> <p>17 throughout the majority of my career. A lot of work in</p> <p>18 preparation of Olympics and then post Olympics.</p> <p>19 An awful lot of work around counter-terrorism protective</p> <p>20 security before being promoted and transferring to Mo19</p> <p>21 as a strategic firearms commander.</p> <p>22 Q. What time did you transfer to the Specialist Firearms</p> <p>23 Command?</p> <p>24 A. End of 2018.</p> <p>25 Q. When did you become a trained and accredited as</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 2</p>	<p>1 Q. You would presumably get to work a bit sooner than that?</p> <p>2 A. Yes, we generally hand over earlier to that, but the</p> <p>3 formal time is 7 am.</p> <p>4 Q. Where on each of those two days would you be based?</p> <p>5 A. I'm based at our Lambeth HQ, the dedicated strategic</p> <p>6 firearms command office, which is near to but detached</p> <p>7 from our main command and control function within the</p> <p>8 special operations room.</p> <p>9 Q. While working that shift, what in practical terms would</p> <p>10 you be doing? Would you be monitoring a particular</p> <p>11 operation, overseeing a number of operations? What sort</p> <p>12 of tasks would you be performing?</p> <p>13 A. So I'll have oversight of all armed deployments for that</p> <p>14 day, both ones that sit within a standing authority, for</p> <p>15 example, armed response vehicles patrolling, I'll have</p> <p>16 oversight of those; I'll have command of any ongoing</p> <p>17 authorised firearms operations; and I will have the</p> <p>18 responsibility for reviewing any applications that come</p> <p>19 in within my tour of duty.</p> <p>20 Q. That will be applications for authority for deployment</p> <p>21 of armed officers?</p> <p>22 A. That's correct sir, yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Before Saturday 1 February 2020, did you have any</p> <p>24 knowledge of Sudesh Amman or Operation Osmious, the</p> <p>25 operation concerning him?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 4</p>

<p>1 A. No, sir.</p> <p>2 Q. So, moving to that Saturday the 1st, your shift</p> <p>3 commencing at 7 am, what preparations did you make for</p> <p>4 your shift in relation to this particular operation?</p> <p>5 A. So we operate a rota of 24-hour 7-day-a-week strategic</p> <p>6 firearms commander cover, so one of the key elements</p> <p>7 prior to my shift is to have a handover with the</p> <p>8 outgoing strategic firearms commander, which includes</p> <p>9 briefing on any ongoing operations, including this one</p> <p>10 on that day.</p> <p>11 Q. Can you recall what the outgoing strategic firearms</p> <p>12 commander told you about this operation?</p> <p>13 A. It's as summarised in the FO3 that I reviewed and</p> <p>14 completed, which is just a snapshot: this what happened,</p> <p>15 this what we have deployed. As it was my first time</p> <p>16 commanding that operation, I then did a significant</p> <p>17 amount of background work to understand the context of</p> <p>18 that operation as part of me reviewing the authority for</p> <p>19 it.</p> <p>20 Q. May we look at the FA3 document you refer to, it's</p> <p>21 INQ002480. It should come up on the screen next to you.</p> <p>22 This is a document headed "Strategic Firearms</p> <p>23 Commander's Policy File & Decision Log". Is it right</p> <p>24 that this is a running log document which would be</p> <p>25 opened by the first strategic firearms commander</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 5</p>	<p>1 authorising this operation, I went through each of those</p> <p>2 from start to finish.</p> <p>3 Q. And, in addition, the tactical firearms commander's log?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. And the tactical advisor's document?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. Then you confirm that you feel you have sufficient</p> <p>8 understanding of the operation to carry out an informed</p> <p>9 review?</p> <p>10 A. That correct sir, yes.</p> <p>11 Q. If we go down the page, please. We see that you record</p> <p>12 the basic biographical details of Sudesh Amman, his date</p> <p>13 of birth and so on. Yes?</p> <p>14 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p>15 Q. And under "Capability" you identify his belief to have</p> <p>16 self-radicalised, about his recent prison -- over the</p> <p>17 page --</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. -- his prison sentence:</p> <p>20 "During his time detained he has associated with</p> <p>21 other high risk TACT offenders ... made a number of</p> <p>22 statements in regard to his desires and aspirations ..."</p> <p>23 That's a summary.</p> <p>24 "... not believed he currently has access to</p> <p>25 firearms or other weapons of offence."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 7</p>
<p>1 involved, and then be reviewed and updated and added to</p> <p>2 by subsequent strategic firearms commanders?</p> <p>3 A. It's exactly right, sir.</p> <p>4 Q. The jury have seen the early parts of this log by which</p> <p>5 the operation was originally authorised for arming</p> <p>6 surveillance officers. May we look at your entry,</p> <p>7 page 35, please. If we look towards the bottom of the</p> <p>8 page, actually a little bit further up, the bottom</p> <p>9 two-thirds of the page.</p> <p>10 Is this an entry that you make at the start of the</p> <p>11 day, identifying yourself as the day shift strategic</p> <p>12 firearms commander for London on that Saturday?</p> <p>13 A. That's correct sir, yes.</p> <p>14 Q. We see that you record, as you've told us, that you</p> <p>15 discussed the deployment in detail with the night duty</p> <p>16 strategic firearms commander, and also that you've</p> <p>17 discussed it with the day duty tactical firearms</p> <p>18 commander responsible for pre-planned firearms</p> <p>19 operations?</p> <p>20 A. Yes, the TFC was responsible for this operation, yes,</p> <p>21 sir.</p> <p>22 Q. Then you refer to having familiarised yourself with the</p> <p>23 content of the FA3, FA5, and FA2 documents. Do they</p> <p>24 include the earlier parts of this document?</p> <p>25 A. Absolutely, sir, yes. So, as it was my first time</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 6</p>	<p>1 A. That's correct sir.</p> <p>2 Q. Then you refer to his intent as being unclear. Then</p> <p>3 there's a summary that intelligence suggested he still</p> <p>4 possessed an extremist mindset with attack aspirations,</p> <p>5 but not corroborated by any planning or preparation?</p> <p>6 A. That's correct sir.</p> <p>7 Q. If we go down to "Update", do you record that that</p> <p>8 morning, in fact, the Friday morning, he had been seen</p> <p>9 looking at items in a cutlery section of a shop but not</p> <p>10 purchasing any, but that that did not change the threat</p> <p>11 assessment working strategy or tactics, although it had</p> <p>12 resulted in the contingency plan of an armed response</p> <p>13 vehicle being on standby?</p> <p>14 A. That's correct, sir, yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Then you add:</p> <p>16 "At this stage the operation is still being managed</p> <p>17 remotely by the TFC but should the subject's behaviour</p> <p>18 cause further concern or deteriorate then the option to</p> <p>19 open the CTPO ..."</p> <p>20 The counter terrorist police operations room?</p> <p>21 A. Mm.</p> <p>22 Q. "... and support the [armed surveillance] deployment</p> <p>23 with a MASTS team is available."</p> <p>24 We've heard that a MASTS team could be a covert</p> <p>25 firearms team of specialist firearms officers?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 8</p>

<p>1 A. They are covert, sir, but not to the extent of the 2 surveillance team. 3 Q. Then the update goes on: 4 "I am satisfied that the subject has not breached 5 his bail conditions and ... is not arrestable. Looking 6 at the items in question is also of concern but again 7 not arrestable. As such, it is proportionate that the 8 [armed surveillance] continues with the contingency of 9 [armed response vehicle] support as immediate standby to 10 the [tactical firearms commander]." 11 A. That's correct, sir. 12 Q. Now, was that a set of updating information which you'd 13 grafted on from previous parts of the document or from 14 views of others or was it your views? 15 A. Sir, it's important around managing information 16 intelligence where there's some sensitivity that there's 17 an agreed intelligence picture, agreed form of words, so 18 that was brought forward as a capture from previous 19 entries, then my understanding was following that on the 20 form, yes. 21 Q. If we go down the page, we see that you note and agree 22 the current threat assessment, which was explained to 23 the jury on Friday as being a low immediate threat 24 assessment? 25 A. That's correct, sir, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 9</p>	<p>1 armed interception? 2 A. That's correct sir, yes. 3 Q. So, is it right that you're recording that the intention 4 was that if this individual was to be stopped, that 5 should ideally be through the use of the armed response 6 vehicle, whether in response to a tipping point or 7 otherwise? 8 A. So there's -- the tipping points don't lay out an exact 9 set of circumstances. They're totally unpredictable 10 circumstances, and an agreement within the operation 11 alongside the investigative side as to what we would do 12 in those foreseeable, I suppose, circumstances. There 13 will be further circumstances before the TFC where the 14 TFC feels that action is required, and within the 15 authority they've got the scope to deal with 16 an interception in those circumstances. 17 However, there's very much an assessment for the TFC 18 with the information and intelligence available to them 19 to call in an appropriate interception. So, in 20 circumstances like this, for example, it has been used 21 before where an unarmed discrete interception is 22 required, where that is appropriate. For example, if 23 there was a requirement to deal with something very low 24 level, where there was a need to preserve the covert 25 nature of the operation, it may be that the TFC will</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 11</p>
<p>1 Q. Then you adopt the working strategy, which is set out 2 below, involving limiting risks to the safety of members 3 of the public and officers? 4 A. That's correct sir. 5 Q. Over the page, please. 6 Go down to "Options & Contingencies". You then 7 agree the options and contingencies from the tactical 8 adviser's document involving armed surveillance and 9 armed response vehicle in support? 10 A. That's correct, sir. 11 Q. And do you record that you are authorising the 12 continuation of those deployments? 13 A. I did yes, sir. 14 Q. Then you write this or your entry includes this: 15 "The ARV contingency has been implemented in support 16 of this operation yesterday with 2 x ARVs supporting the 17 deployment as an arrest capability should a tipping 18 point or threshold be reached which justifies armed 19 interception of the subject. This provides the 20 [tactical firearms commander] with suitable tactics to 21 manage the threat and working strategy ..." 22 And so on. 23 You describe here the armed response vehicles as 24 providing the arrest capability if one of the tipping 25 points is met or a threshold is reached which justifies</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 10</p>	<p>1 have the option of an unarmed interception option in 2 those circumstances, but there's a lot of flexibility 3 around that, so the framework of my authority and powers 4 of the TFC to make those decisions. 5 Q. So just to understand the way all this works. 6 First of all, in this case, as presumably in others, 7 you have tipping points provided by the investigation 8 team? 9 A. So, agreed with the investigation team because they will 10 not necessarily -- my sense of when we need to take 11 action won't necessarily mirror precisely what 12 investigation team want. That's the importance of 13 having agreed tipping points, so in those circumstances 14 there is an agreed position which takes into account the 15 investigative imperative and my strategy to understand 16 what we're going to do. 17 Q. And those agreed tipping points will, as you say, set 18 out a number of foreseeable contingencies, foreseeable 19 things that might happen, and what should be done in 20 response? 21 A. They will, sir, but it's not a complete list of every 22 circumstance, clearly. 23 Q. They may include, and they did here, some situations in 24 which the guidance was that there ought to be an armed 25 intervention?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 12</p>

1 **A. "Interception" is the term, but yes, sir.**
 2 Q. Yes, and that armed interception would involve, it was
 3 intended, the armed response vehicles?
 4 **A. Yes.**
 5 Q. But then there might be other things that might happen,
 6 which might equally justify an armed interception, using
 7 the armed response vehicles. Who would make the
 8 decision in real time about ordering the armed response
 9 vehicles either in response to a tipping point or in
 10 response to some other event taking place?
 11 **A. They would be tactical decisions within the strategic**
 12 **authority that I'd granted the TFC to make.**
 13 Q. So that's the tactical firearms commander in -- in
 14 a central location?
 15 **A. Yes, linked in with the investigation team.**
 16 Q. If something happened which required a quicker decision,
 17 a more immediate decision, by somebody on the ground,
 18 involving an armed interception, who would you expect to
 19 make that decision?
 20 **A. So, notwithstanding the authorities, firearms officers**
 21 **are trained and capable to make -- use the national**
 22 **decision-making model to make an informed decision,**
 23 **particularly where there is an immediate threat to life,**
 24 **so I would expect them to deal with a situation where**
 25 **there is a risk to life before then based on their**

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1 **training and capability.**
 2 Q. When you say "them", do you mean just the armed
 3 surveillance officers who had actually been watching
 4 Sudesh Amman over the armed response vehicle officers in
 5 vehicles nearby?
 6 **A. So the armed response officers will not be eyes-on.**
 7 **They are more likely to be called in by the TFC or in**
 8 **response to communications that happen in --**
 9 **immediately. So they're less likely to be faced with**
 10 **something immediately in front of them, but it is still**
 11 **feasible. But mainly I'm talking about the armed**
 12 **surveillance officers and the OFC as part of that team.**
 13 Q. The OFC, as part of the armed surveillance team, will be
 14 the team leader of that team?
 15 **A. That correct sir, yes.**
 16 Q. Would it be possible for that team leader to communicate
 17 with the armed response vehicle directly and ask for the
 18 officers of that team to come to their assistance?
 19 **A. That would be fed through the central control channel,**
 20 **which would be monitoring by the armed response**
 21 **vehicles, so they would pick that up, that updated**
 22 **information, but it wouldn't be the OFC requesting**
 23 **direct the armed support.**
 24 Q. So, if the team leader of the surveillance team wanted
 25 the armed response vehicle to assist for any reason,

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1 they would have to go via the tactical firearms
 2 commander; is that right?
 3 **A. They would communicate. If it was something with**
 4 **a degree of urgency, the ARVs would understandably react**
 5 **to that, particularly in a threat-to-life situation. If**
 6 **it was a change of tactic which wasn't around a response**
 7 **to a threat-to-life situation, it would go through the**
 8 **TFC.**
 9 Q. If, for example, the surveillance officers saw something
 10 in the movement, behaviour, or dress of the subject they
 11 thought justified an armed stop or a stop-and-search,
 12 how would they achieve that? What would they do to
 13 achieve that?
 14 **A. That information intelligence would be fed through the**
 15 **ops room and the TFC would make that decision.**
 16 Q. If the TFC wasn't, in fact, monitoring that particular
 17 operation at the time, would it be a question of getting
 18 the TFC on the phone or on the radio to make the
 19 decision?
 20 **A. Yes, that's correct, sir.**
 21 Q. In what circumstances would you as the strategic
 22 firearms commander be expected to be involved in that
 23 sort of decision-making, if at all?
 24 **A. If it's something that fell outside of my authority --**
 25 **so, for example, it's mentioned in here about**

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1 **contingencies of MASTS deployment -- so if there's**
 2 **a request to increase the capability around MASTS, for**
 3 **example, that would require coming back to me for**
 4 **enhancing the authority. But also, if something of**
 5 **significance around the information intelligence changed**
 6 **to the extent where I needed to conduct a further review**
 7 **around the operation, then I would be involved in that.**
 8 Q. If we could return to the document and just go a little
 9 further down the page, please.
 10 Do you set out here the tipping points, which the
 11 jury have seen a number of times, which were agreed with
 12 the operation team and then put into the FA2 document?
 13 **A. That's correct, sir, yes.**
 14 Q. Then the next page, please, page 38. We see this then
 15 written:
 16 "There are a long list of licence conditions which
 17 could be breached by the subject, hence the need for
 18 a conversation between the [tactical firearms commander]
 19 and [senior investigating officer] to establish the need
 20 to implement decisive action. I am satisfied that this
 21 provides suitable flexibility to the TFC in order to
 22 manage this ongoing firearms operation and working
 23 strategy. Sustained Public Protection ... should be
 24 a consideration where any breach of licence takes place.
 25 However, the TFC is briefed to update the SFC if any

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1 breaches take place."
 2 Just take that in stages.
 3 What did you understand would happen if Sudesh Amman
 4 breached one of his licence conditions?
 5 **A. So this becomes -- we get into the territory where we've**
 6 **got evidential thresholds tying in with tipping points,**
 7 **so it depends on the nature of the breach and the**
 8 **conversation between the TFC and the SIO.**
 9 **My focus around this is managing both immediate risk**
 10 **but also managing the long-term risk around sustained**
 11 **public protection and unknown future intended victims,**
 12 **so for me it was important that discussion considered**
 13 **the implications in terms of compromise of a covert**
 14 **operation and our capability long-term to manage the**
 15 **risk against the likely penalty of such a breach. So it**
 16 **was very much driven by the investigative team in terms**
 17 **of the context of that breach and therefore how that**
 18 **would impact on our ability to sustain public**
 19 **protection.**
 20 Q. Tipping points have some specific breaches built into
 21 them.
 22 **A. Yes.**
 23 Q. Breach of curfew --
 24 **A. Yes.**
 25 Q. -- for example, overnight triggers one response, during

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1 the day triggers another response. But where another
 2 breach -- another sort of breach takes place, there will
 3 be a discussion with the senior investigating officer
 4 because you're trying to balance the need to protect the
 5 public --
 6 **A. That's correct, sir.**
 7 Q. -- against the danger of making Sudesh Amman fully aware
 8 of the surveillance, blowing the surveillance, and
 9 reducing your ability to protect the public in future?
 10 **A. Absolutely, yes, that's right, sir.**
 11 Q. If we go down the page, you say in relation to the
 12 location of the tactical firearms commander that you are
 13 satisfied that that person can maintain effective
 14 command remotely, but that position should be reviewed
 15 if there's a significant change to the intelligence
 16 which justifies the employment of a MASTS team.
 17 Why did you form those views?
 18 **A. So the -- the deployment of a TFC within a surveillance**
 19 **operation is not really viable, they're not a covert**
 20 **officer, so within that footprint, and then the decision**
 21 **would be whether the TFC is within the ops room or**
 22 **remote. The key for me is the TFC's ability to maintain**
 23 **contact with the OFC, which can be done by phone, and to**
 24 **be made aware of any changes to the information and**
 25 **intelligence and effectively command the operation.**

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1 Q. Will -- no, go on.
 2 **A. It's -- it's -- it's fairly common practice with**
 3 **an armed surveillance operations for remote TFC, because**
 4 **the best place for the TFC to be deployed subsequently,**
 5 **if they need to be deployed, is very fluid so there**
 6 **needs to be flexibility in the location.**
 7 Q. We'll hear from the next witness, DS51, the TFC, she
 8 wasn't monitoring this particular operation, wasn't in
 9 an operations room, but was available to be called as
 10 needed. You were satisfied that that was an appropriate
 11 situation?
 12 **A. Yes, sir. And, again, the context of this was very much**
 13 **this was an intelligence-gathering armed deployment.**
 14 Q. How important is or was it that the tactical firearms
 15 commander could be contacted at a moment's notice?
 16 **A. It's clearly important.**
 17 Q. If we move on to what you write about action and review,
 18 you say that at the start of that day you authorised the
 19 continued deployment of armed officers, you were
 20 satisfied that the criteria for their deployment was
 21 met, having reason to suppose that the officers may have
 22 to protect themselves and others from a person who may
 23 be in possession of firearms or other potentially lethal
 24 weapon.
 25 That was the rationale for your continued authority

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1 for arming the surveillance officers?
 2 **A. That's one of four criteria for deployment of armed**
 3 **officers. It's specifically worded.**
 4 Q. And in this case, the arming of those officers was to
 5 protect themselves and others rather than with a view to
 6 them, they themselves, doing a planned stop of
 7 Sudesh Amman?
 8 **A. That's correct, sir, yes.**
 9 Q. A planned stop of him would be done, if at all, by other
 10 officers?
 11 **A. That would be the primary option, yes, sir.**
 12 Q. Now, is it right in general terms that the strategic
 13 firearms commander, you in this case, plays an important
 14 role in giving the continued authority for firearms to
 15 be held and potentially used on the streets of London?
 16 **A. Absolutely, sir. It's not just about giving the**
 17 **authority; it's reviewing to ensure that proportionality**
 18 **and necessity of that deployment remains.**
 19 Q. In your own words, why did you regard armed
 20 surveillance, with ARV in backup, as the right set of
 21 options for this case?
 22 **A. They were the options as advised by the tactical adviser**
 23 **who is -- I am sure you've heard -- is a real specialist**
 24 **in the field. I'm not a tactical specialist. It was**
 25 **a proportionate means of dealing with the information**

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<p>1 intelligence picture we had as part of the information</p> <p>2 and intelligence we had around an aspiration of Mr Amman</p> <p>3 to undertake an attack, even though we had no specifics,</p> <p>4 but providing the capability to deal with that, should</p> <p>5 that occur unexpectedly, both for the officers to</p> <p>6 protect themselves and to protect others.</p> <p>7 Q. During that day, Saturday 1 February, what role, if any,</p> <p>8 did you perform in relation to this particular operation</p> <p>9 after you produced this review?</p> <p>10 A. I just maintained that strategic command role in terms</p> <p>11 of the ongoing monitoring that sits within the FA2. So</p> <p>12 for me it's that strategic oversight piece in the event</p> <p>13 anything changes, so I wasn't actively monitoring and</p> <p>14 nor would I expect to.</p> <p>15 Q. You would be called upon if some significant event took</p> <p>16 place which required strategic input?</p> <p>17 A. Yes, that's correct, sir.</p> <p>18 Q. In the event, was there any such occurrence that day?</p> <p>19 A. No, sir.</p> <p>20 Q. Did you, therefore, hand over to the night duty</p> <p>21 strategic firearms commander at the end of your shift?</p> <p>22 A. I did.</p> <p>23 Q. If, during the course of that day, the surveillance team</p> <p>24 had identified something about the behaviour or dress of</p> <p>25 Sudesh Amman which had called for, in their view, some</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 21</p>	<p>1 Q. What did you do to inform yourself of the events of the</p> <p>2 previous night?</p> <p>3 A. As the start of the Saturday shift, I touched base with</p> <p>4 the outgoing strategic firearms commander in relation to</p> <p>5 any changes. Obviously I was far more familiar with the</p> <p>6 operation on Sunday morning, having got up to speed on</p> <p>7 Saturday. And I also spoke to the TFC.</p> <p>8 Q. Had there been any development overnight?</p> <p>9 A. Not that I recall, sir. I haven't got the form in front</p> <p>10 of me any more.</p> <p>11 Q. We can look at your log entry, INQ002480, page 43.</p> <p>12 If we could look at the top of the page, you again</p> <p>13 describe yourself as the day shift strategic firearms</p> <p>14 commander and you say that you discussed the deployment</p> <p>15 in detail. You run through the information intelligence</p> <p>16 picture, if we go down the page, and then you copy the</p> <p>17 information from the previous log.</p> <p>18 On to page 46, please. Under "Action and Review",</p> <p>19 you confirm reauthorising the deployment of armed</p> <p>20 officers for the same reason as before.</p> <p>21 A. That's correct, sir.</p> <p>22 Q. So that doesn't indicate any change in intelligence</p> <p>23 picture at all?</p> <p>24 A. No. And in the information intelligence box above, sir,</p> <p>25 I note that I've noted there's been no change.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 23</p>
<p>1 armed intervention, would you have expected that you be</p> <p>2 told or you would have expected that to be done entirely</p> <p>3 in communication with the tactical firearms commander?</p> <p>4 A. Certainly if anything was happening that was moving</p> <p>5 quickly, I would expect the TFC to get on with</p> <p>6 commanding that rather than using their time less</p> <p>7 effectively by briefing me. However, if we were moving</p> <p>8 towards a situation where an interception or</p> <p>9 intervention was becoming more likely, I would expect,</p> <p>10 when the TFC had an opportunity, to be briefed on that.</p> <p>11 Q. And if the potentially difficult decision of whether to</p> <p>12 stop somebody who is behaving oddly or dressed oddly in</p> <p>13 the context of this case, if that decision had to be</p> <p>14 made, who would you have been expecting to make that</p> <p>15 decision, just the TFC or the TFC in combination with</p> <p>16 the senior investigating officer from SO15?</p> <p>17 A. So, it could be either. In terms of the decision to</p> <p>18 implement an armed tactical response, that would be with</p> <p>19 the TFC. That would be the TFC's decision. I would</p> <p>20 expect, if opportunity presented itself, for there to be</p> <p>21 consultation with the SIO, but not to the extent that it</p> <p>22 would delay urgent and necessary action.</p> <p>23 Q. Moving on then to Sunday 2 February, did you once again</p> <p>24 arrive at work a little before 7 am?</p> <p>25 A. I did sir, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 22</p>	<p>1 Q. Yes.</p> <p>2 Now, after you had completed that review that early</p> <p>3 morning, did you receive any more information about the</p> <p>4 operation during the course of the morning and early</p> <p>5 afternoon?</p> <p>6 A. I received a telephone call from our firearms commander</p> <p>7 control pod within the operation room at Lambeth asking</p> <p>8 me to come down and see them because shots had been</p> <p>9 fired in relation to this operation.</p> <p>10 Q. Before that, had you been told anything about what was</p> <p>11 going on?</p> <p>12 A. No, sir.</p> <p>13 Q. Now, after you had been told of shots being fired, what</p> <p>14 role did you play in the operation?</p> <p>15 A. I continued to be strategic firearms commander through</p> <p>16 to the resolution phase of that -- that deployment, and</p> <p>17 until I was able to hand over command to move into the</p> <p>18 post-incident procedure, which was some time much later</p> <p>19 after then.</p> <p>20 MR HOUGH: Thank you very much. Those are all my questions.</p> <p>21 There may be some more.</p> <p>22 A. Thank you sir.</p> <p>23 Questions by MR MENON</p> <p>24 MR MENON: Good morning. I ask questions on behalf of the</p> <p>25 family of Sudesh Amman.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 24</p>

6 (Pages 21 to 24)

<p>1 A. Good morning.</p> <p>2 Q. I want to take you back to the early hours of 1 February</p> <p>3 when you were briefed by the outgoing night shift duty</p> <p>4 firearms officer. That was your very first involvement</p> <p>5 with this case and with Sudesh Amman; is that right?</p> <p>6 A. That's correct, sir.</p> <p>7 Q. Were you informed by the outgoing strategic firearms</p> <p>8 commander about the events on 31 January, in other</p> <p>9 words, the previous day, where Mr Amman had gone into</p> <p>10 a Poundland shop and made various purchases that were of</p> <p>11 concern?</p> <p>12 A. Yes, sir. The outgoing SSE flagged the entry on the FA2</p> <p>13 form, which I reviewed whilst speaking to them.</p> <p>14 Q. And turning then to your entry for the 1st, the same</p> <p>15 document we had on the screen, please, going back to</p> <p>16 page 35. If we could start with the 1 February entry,</p> <p>17 please, and have the rest of the page.</p> <p>18 That sets out the information that you were provided</p> <p>19 during that briefing; is that right?</p> <p>20 A. Yes, it does.</p> <p>21 Q. Pausing there, under "Threat Assessment", just to</p> <p>22 clarify the position, I mean the jury have heard quite</p> <p>23 a lot of evidence already about this, that from the day</p> <p>24 of Mr Amman's release from prison on 23 January -- so</p> <p>25 this is about 9 days later -- that throughout that</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 25</p>	<p>1 a knife, either prior to him leaving the approved</p> <p>2 premises or subsequently, it was appropriate to</p> <p>3 categorise his threat assessment as low?</p> <p>4 A. So, this is a threat to those individual groups as</p> <p>5 opposed from them.</p> <p>6 Q. Yes.</p> <p>7 A. So, if we look at future potential intention -- intended</p> <p>8 victims, for example, and I think this hopefully is</p> <p>9 addressing the point, if we were to have done nothing,</p> <p>10 the threat and risk to those individuals would have been</p> <p>11 higher.</p> <p>12 Q. Yes.</p> <p>13 A. This is in the context of that we have an authorised</p> <p>14 armed deployment. We have surveillance control which</p> <p>15 also has capability to protect themselves and others in</p> <p>16 circumstances that develop in front of them, risk to</p> <p>17 life.</p> <p>18 Q. Yes.</p> <p>19 A. And based on the information intelligence picture. So</p> <p>20 it's not an assessment of someone in isolation, it's not</p> <p>21 a risk assessment of that individual. This is a risk</p> <p>22 assessment in the context of the armed operation that's</p> <p>23 ongoing.</p> <p>24 Q. Had you been told as part of your briefing that</p> <p>25 following the police discovering the purchases that I've</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 27</p>
<p>1 period he had been regarded by not only the police but</p> <p>2 by all other agencies involved as being a high risk in</p> <p>3 terms of the commission of a unsophisticated terrorist</p> <p>4 act; in that context, why are the threat assessments on</p> <p>5 this document largely listed as low?</p> <p>6 A. So it's -- it seemed a little incongruous, sir, but this</p> <p>7 is in the context of an armed deployment, so this has</p> <p>8 already gone through an assessment of the threshold to</p> <p>9 meet the criteria for the deployment of armed officers,</p> <p>10 which is a significant decision, and this is</p> <p>11 an assessment based on the ongoing policing operation,</p> <p>12 so the assessment is based on the level of controls that</p> <p>13 we had throughout this operation, so the capability we</p> <p>14 had around armed surveillance. But it was also based on</p> <p>15 this whole review. The whole national decision-making</p> <p>16 model comes back to information intelligence, and there</p> <p>17 was no specific information intelligence around</p> <p>18 a specific plan to attack, there was no specific</p> <p>19 indication of capability to undertake that attack, and</p> <p>20 this was in the context of an ongoing</p> <p>21 intelligence-gathering surveillance deployment.</p> <p>22 Hopefully that's answered your question.</p> <p>23 Q. So, in other words, despite the conclusion that he was</p> <p>24 high risk to members of the public, it was felt that in</p> <p>25 the absence of specific intelligence as to him obtaining</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 26</p>	<p>1 mentioned to you, a joint operations team meeting had</p> <p>2 taken place at which it had been concluded by senior</p> <p>3 police officers and MI5 officers that there was a power</p> <p>4 of arrest on suspicion of preparing a terrorist act, but</p> <p>5 the preferred strategic option would be 24-hour armed</p> <p>6 surveillance with the additional factors that you have</p> <p>7 already indicated. Do you know that?</p> <p>8 A. I think one of the things with approved professional</p> <p>9 practice for armed policing is clarity of separation of</p> <p>10 roles, so it is -- it's not only desirable, it's</p> <p>11 stipulated that my role should be separate from the</p> <p>12 investigation.</p> <p>13 Q. Understood.</p> <p>14 A. So, investigative decisions, as you said there, quite</p> <p>15 rightly, I'm not absorbed in. It is my decision-making</p> <p>16 to be based on what's presented before me. And that's</p> <p>17 the way it works, so those decisions in terms of the</p> <p>18 investigative strategy sit squarely with the</p> <p>19 investigation.</p> <p>20 However, looking at -- at that point about,</p> <p>21 I suppose, my opinion, I'm looking at that immediate</p> <p>22 short-term, medium and long-term threat and risk to</p> <p>23 members of the public.</p> <p>24 Q. Yes.</p> <p>25 A. So, for me, the level of control we have, if Mr Amman</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 28</p>

<p>1 was arrested to the extent where either he got</p> <p>2 an incredibly short custodial sentence or alternatively</p> <p>3 no custodial sentence at all and was released, we are</p> <p>4 likely to have compromised our covert operation and</p> <p>5 we're likely to, on release, have less control over him,</p> <p>6 which means, in my opinion, the risk to members of the</p> <p>7 public is likely to increase.</p> <p>8 Q. I appreciate that you agree with the analysis by other</p> <p>9 people in the investigation team. My question was --</p> <p>10 I understand what you're saying about the separation of</p> <p>11 responsibility, but my question is were you informed of</p> <p>12 that decision in the early hours of 1 February before</p> <p>13 you became strategic firearms commander or would you</p> <p>14 simply not have been informed of that decision at all at</p> <p>15 the time?</p> <p>16 A. I don't believe I was specifically informed of that</p> <p>17 information at the time.</p> <p>18 Q. So the answer you gave to my previous question is very</p> <p>19 much your subsequent conclusion looking back at events</p> <p>20 as opposed to your state of mind at the time on</p> <p>21 1 February; is that right?</p> <p>22 A. Er --</p> <p>23 Q. Because you didn't know about it on 1 February.</p> <p>24 A. So the opinion I've given you isn't specifically in</p> <p>25 relation to that. It's around my decision-making and</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 29</p>	<p>1 an acknowledgement in the information you were provided</p> <p>2 that in addition to extremist thinking, you were dealing</p> <p>3 here with somebody who was, at the very least, mentally</p> <p>4 unpredictable; is that fair?</p> <p>5 A. I suppose this is a layperson's view. Someone who is</p> <p>6 intent to go out and undertake a terrorist attack, has</p> <p>7 aspiration to do that, for me is not thinking</p> <p>8 rationally, is not behaving rationally --</p> <p>9 Q. No, I understand that, but this is not -- that is</p> <p>10 a perfectly fair conclusion to reach, but it's more than</p> <p>11 that, isn't it? It's not just that he has extremist</p> <p>12 ideas that could lead him to committing an attack of</p> <p>13 this kind; it is also that there were identified, as you</p> <p>14 put it here in the document, questionable mental health</p> <p>15 issues that had been observed by others. So it's not</p> <p>16 just the extremism, is it? It's more than that in this</p> <p>17 case.</p> <p>18 A. I'd agree with that sir.</p> <p>19 Q. And you have to, and others have to, who are involved in</p> <p>20 putting this operation together, reflect that in the</p> <p>21 planning, don't you, in terms of what he could or could</p> <p>22 not do when he was, for example, on a busy high street</p> <p>23 with lots of shops where weapons are available; is that</p> <p>24 fair?</p> <p>25 A. I'm not sure I understand the question, sir.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 31</p>
<p>1 the priority of the working strategy for this operation,</p> <p>2 which is around -- it's not just a one-off about now,</p> <p>3 protecting future intended victims; it's about the</p> <p>4 sustained protection of those.</p> <p>5 Q. Could we go on, please, I think it's the top of the next</p> <p>6 page, but if we just go down the page it's under the</p> <p>7 heading "Emotionally" -- a bit further up. Sorry, my</p> <p>8 mistake, I think it's just before the threat assessment</p> <p>9 on the previous page, my apologies. Page 36, if we can</p> <p>10 go back to the top of the page.</p> <p>11 Yes, there we have it "EMD". "EMD" stands for?</p> <p>12 A. "Emotionally or mentally disturbed".</p> <p>13 Q. "As a result of the detailed intelligence picture on the</p> <p>14 subject which is provided within the intelligence</p> <p>15 package and FA1, I am treating the subject as</p> <p>16 emotionally and mentally disturbed. This is based on</p> <p>17 his aspirations and desires as well as questionable</p> <p>18 mental health issues. There are also EBI issues ..."</p> <p>19 EBI?</p> <p>20 A. "Environmental and behavioural influences".</p> <p>21 Q. "... issues associated with the subject as he has</p> <p>22 communicated his intent to others and therefore may feel</p> <p>23 under pressure to carry any act out."</p> <p>24 I mean, just to express that in perhaps slightly</p> <p>25 less technical language, I mean there was</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 30</p>	<p>1 Q. Well, if you are dealing with somebody who</p> <p>2 unpredictable --</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. -- and who is of questionable mental health, as</p> <p>5 expressed here, that has to be reflected, isn't it, in</p> <p>6 terms of the nature of the operation and the tipping</p> <p>7 points that you have spoken about in terms of what he</p> <p>8 could or could not do when he's out on the street?</p> <p>9 A. So, for this type of operation, the tipping points,</p> <p>10 I think, do reflect that because the tipping points are</p> <p>11 pretty low. These are not about achieving sufficient</p> <p>12 evidence for a complete terrorism prosecution under</p> <p>13 TACT.</p> <p>14 Q. Understood. If we can go further down, I think that is</p> <p>15 on the next page, where you deal with the tipping</p> <p>16 points. Pause there please.</p> <p>17 Bottom one, please:</p> <p>18 "If Shadow Cloak [that is Mr Amman] is seen to</p> <p>19 purchase a knife, which remains packaged (ie would not</p> <p>20 breach offensive weapon threshold) ..."</p> <p>21 That's to charge him with possession of an offensive</p> <p>22 weapon?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. "... he should be allowed to return to the [approved</p> <p>25 premises]. The next time he leaves the [approved</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 32</p>

1 premises], he should be subject to a stop-and-search
 2 with the assistance of armed assets."
 3 So, if he had purchased the knife as opposed to
 4 stolen it, if he had kept it in the packaging as opposed
 5 to remove it from the packaging, the strategy was to
 6 allow him to return with the knife to the approved
 7 premises without stopping and searching him or arresting
 8 him beforehand; is that right?
 9 **A. It's a difficult position to be in, sir, but --**
 10 Q. I am just asking --
 11 **A. -- a knife -- sorry. A knife in packaging doesn't**
 12 **constitute any sort of offence, so there is a danger of**
 13 **compromising the covert operation and, by our actions,**
 14 **increasing the risks to the public without any outcome**
 15 **that we could take forward. Had one of his conditions**
 16 **on release been, for example, to indicate that and so**
 17 **that in itself formed a breach, that would have been**
 18 **something different, but as it is, he could have**
 19 **purchased a knife in packaging for an entirely**
 20 **legitimate purchase, to the extent that within the AP he**
 21 **may have had cutlery that then could've been used for**
 22 **other means.**
 23 **But it's a case of that balance between immediate**
 24 **risk of urgent against what is -- what is the ongoing**
 25 **risk of action and not taking action, so there are risks**

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1 **involved as a consequence of action we take, but also**
 2 **action we don't take.**
 3 Q. What about the risk of him taking the knife back to the
 4 approved premises, where you don't have a police officer
 5 inside who is armed, and him using that knife within the
 6 approved premises against somebody there? I mean, what
 7 about that risk?
 8 **A. There's very little we can do outside of the realms of**
 9 **our powers and policies to deal with an offender. And,**
 10 **equally, within the approved premises, he could've taken**
 11 **a knife out of a cutlery drawer and undertaken an attack**
 12 **against people inside. We're in the business of,**
 13 **unfortunately, managing risk. In these circumstances,**
 14 **we can't eliminate risk.**
 15 Q. Understood.
 16 **A. That's what the whole approach is around. So, I think**
 17 **it's -- with the benefit of hindsight and understanding**
 18 **the consequences, it's very easy to have those**
 19 **discussions. When you're balancing the long-term risk**
 20 **to the public against taking the knife and packaging off**
 21 **him and not being able to do anything in terms of**
 22 **prosecution about that and compromising your covert**
 23 **operation as a result, you're introducing a significant**
 24 **risk to this operation.**
 25 Q. But ultimately -- and let me make it clear, I'm not

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1 criticising the individual armed officers on the ground
 2 for this, they did what they could in arguably
 3 impossible circumstances?
 4 **A. Yes, sir.**
 5 Q. But ultimately the risk wasn't managed, was it, because
 6 two members of the public were stabbed by Mr Amman
 7 seconds after he stole the knife and ran out of the Low
 8 Price Store? That was the tragic outcome of this
 9 operation, wasn't it?
 10 **A. It -- it was a tragic outcome. I think -- on**
 11 **reflection, sir, I think given the lack of indication**
 12 **that he was in the process of final stages of planning**
 13 **an attack and the spontaneous nature of his actions,**
 14 **even to the extent where he didn't go in and buy a knife**
 15 **and unwrap it, where he snatched one and went straight**
 16 **out, I think the mitigation measures that were in place**
 17 **were incredibly successful to manage that risk and**
 18 **deliver the working strategy.**
 19 **But, again, it is managing risk. We don't work in**
 20 **a risk-free environment.**
 21 Q. At the end of the day, do you think -- and this is with
 22 the benefit of hindsight, I appreciate that -- but do
 23 you think that at the end of the day perhaps the
 24 approach during this operation and the fear of
 25 compromising, compromising the covert nature of this

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1 operation was perhaps overemphasised in that difficult
 2 balancing exercise that you undoubtedly have to perform?
 3 **A. I take -- I take my role incredibly seriously and the**
 4 **fact that, in the context of an armed operation that**
 5 **I was commanding, that I had overall responsibility for**
 6 **in terms of managing that risk, that one person lost his**
 7 **life and other people were injured, I have reflected**
 8 **a great deal about this, both from a personal learning**
 9 **perspective and to think, organisationally, can we learn**
 10 **from this?**
 11 **I have to say, I've looked back through this and**
 12 **been back through this in my mind. From a personal**
 13 **debrief perspective and a personal reflection**
 14 **perspective, I don't see how we could have achieved**
 15 **a more effective result with the circumstances presented**
 16 **to us. And I know that sounds really harsh because**
 17 **Mr Amman lost his life, but we were responding to his**
 18 **actions and his actions to attempt to kill people.**
 19 Q. I understand that. Can I just make it clear, because
 20 I don't want anyone to get the wrong impression, at the
 21 end of the day Mr Amman stabbed two members of the
 22 public and he alone bears responsibility for that. If
 23 he hadn't been shot and killed seconds later, he and he
 24 alone would have stood trial in relation to those
 25 stabbings. Nothing I am asking or suggesting is

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<p>1 intended to suggest anything to the contrary. I'm 2 interested in potential failings and missed 3 opportunities and that's why I'm asking you the 4 questions I am. Do you understand? 5 A. Yes, absolutely, sir, and I'm not defensive about it. 6 If I could just finish off my thought there -- 7 Q. Yes. 8 A. -- where I've reflected on this. The key point is: had 9 we, at any stage prior to this, in conjunction with the 10 investigation team looked at some form of interception, 11 some sort of action, I have no doubt that Mr Amman -- 12 because I was not aware of anything substantive in terms 13 of offending prior this -- I'm confident that Mr Amman 14 would've come out of that -- what -- the follow-up from 15 that interception with greater awareness of the 16 monitoring we had, with a greater focus on countering 17 surveillance, and we would've had less control over him, 18 which would've meant inevitably when -- and I have to 19 say my opinion is it's when, not if -- when he then 20 undertook the subsequent attack, we would not have had 21 the reaction that we did have of armed officers to 22 protect the public and the level of proximity that they 23 did, so -- 24 Q. I understand that answer and I've challenged others 25 about that already, so I'm not going to challenge you on</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 37</p>	<p>1 catered part of the approved premises? 2 A. I wasn't, no, sir. 3 Q. And were you aware that cutlery at those approved 4 premises is subject to a booking-in and booking-out 5 procedure? 6 A. I believe that was referenced to me, sir, yes. 7 MR RAWAT: Thank you very much. 8 Questions by MR SHELDON 9 MR SHELDON: Good morning, superintendent. As you know, 10 I represent the Metropolitan Police and I just have two 11 short matters to deal with, please. 12 You've been taken during your evidence to the FA3 13 document, which, just so we're clear, is the document 14 that you complete as the strategic firearms commander? 15 A. That's correct sir, yes. 16 Q. But in dealing with an operation of this sort, you also 17 have reference, don't you, to the other firearms-related 18 documentation completed in respect of it? 19 A. Absolutely, sir. So the -- there's far greater detail 20 on the FA2 that isn't just simply transposed on the FA3. 21 Q. Can I just pick up one point about that, which may be 22 relevant to note. 23 If we go to the FA3 first, please, at 002480 at 24 page 35, we can see in the middle of the page your first 25 entry on Saturday 1 February.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 39</p>
<p>1 that on as well. The position that I am advancing on 2 behalf of the family on that issue is clear, namely that 3 we are suggesting that the arrest should have been made 4 on 31 January, because that would've been a much safer 5 outcome, but I understand your answer and I don't think 6 I can take it any further. Thank you. 7 A. Just on that point, sir. It would've dealt with the 8 issues on the 31st. 9 Q. Yes. 10 A. But it would have made the life of the armed officers, 11 the investigation team and the risk to the public much 12 more difficult in the days subsequent to that. 13 Q. Well, finally on that, since you've come back to me, yes 14 if he couldn't be charged, if other restrictions 15 couldn't be placed on him, if he couldn't be recalled, 16 but surely that's better than two members of the public 17 being stabbed and a man losing his life. That's what 18 I am suggesting. I know we disagree on that, so I'll 19 leave it at that. 20 A. Right, sir. 21 Questions by MR RAWAT 22 MR RAWAT: Good morning. My name is Bilal Rawat. I appear 23 on behalf of Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service. 24 Can I just clarify two points with you, officer. 25 Were you aware that Mr Amman was located in the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 38</p>	<p>1 You make it clear, don't you, in the third paragraph 2 underneath the heading that you have familiarised 3 yourself not only with the rest of this document, but 4 also the FA5 and the FA2? 5 A. That's correct, sir, yes. 6 Q. You refer also later to the FA1, which wasn't 7 immediately to hand at this point, but did you 8 subsequent review that as well? 9 A. I did. That was brought to me, sir, yes. 10 Q. It had to be securely stored, so I think it was brought 11 to you separately? 12 A. It did, yes, sir. It was a key point for me: did I need 13 to see that in order to conduct that authority on that 14 first morning? I was happy that I had sufficient 15 information prior to that to authorise that, but I did 16 make sure that I read that document as well. 17 Q. You were asked by Mr Menon about whether you were aware 18 of the purchase that had been made on the 31st. Can we 19 just identify the source of that. 20 The FA2, please, is 002477. 002477. 21 Just briefly to identify the document, that's the 22 FA2 for this operation, isn't it? 23 A. It is, sir. 24 Q. Thank you. 25 If we go straight please to page 16. 16, one-six.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 40</p>

10 (Pages 37 to 40)

<p>1 Thank you.</p> <p>2 Here we have part of the running log kept by the</p> <p>3 tactical firearms commander.</p> <p>4 On the entry of 30 January 2020, just under the</p> <p>5 heading -- yes, if we could go down a little bit</p> <p>6 further -- do we see there the account of the purchases</p> <p>7 from Poundland?</p> <p>8 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p>9 Q. And you read that, did you?</p> <p>10 A. I did, yes, sir.</p> <p>11 Q. Secondly, please -- and we can take that document down,</p> <p>12 thank you -- the issue of tipping points. As you've</p> <p>13 explained, tipping points are devised to indicate the</p> <p>14 appropriate response to certain foreseeable scenarios;</p> <p>15 yes?</p> <p>16 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p>17 Q. If, however, the subject of an operation of this sort</p> <p>18 behaves in an unforeseen way, which puts the lives of</p> <p>19 members of the public at immediate risk, what would you</p> <p>20 expect armed officers on the ground to do in response to</p> <p>21 that threat?</p> <p>22 A. I would expect them to follow their training and</p> <p>23 capability to deal with an immediate risk to life in</p> <p>24 front of them, which is -- is accepted does not need my</p> <p>25 authority, based on the individual judgment of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 41</p>	<p>1 expect action from the TFC to manage that risk.</p> <p>2 Q. As a superintendent who is responsible for the strategy</p> <p>3 to be adopted by firearms officers on the ground in</p> <p>4 an operation of this sort, do you feel a degree of</p> <p>5 responsibility for those officers that you have</p> <p>6 authorised?</p> <p>7 A. Absolutely, I'm responsible for all elements of those</p> <p>8 people listed on the working strategy.</p> <p>9 Q. As a senior officer in the Metropolitan Police's</p> <p>10 firearms command, is there anything you would wish to</p> <p>11 say, finally, about what those officers did on</p> <p>12 2 February?</p> <p>13 A. I think the actions of the officers, for me, were</p> <p>14 commendable. They deploy as surveillance officers</p> <p>15 primarily; their training and being equipped as armed</p> <p>16 officers is secondary. It's rare when they are</p> <p>17 confronted with that sort of dynamic situation, and the</p> <p>18 way they worked collectively and as individuals to so</p> <p>19 swiftly deal with such a difficult situation in front of</p> <p>20 them I think was exceptional.</p> <p>21 MR SHELDON: Thank you very much, superintendent. Those are</p> <p>22 all my questions.</p> <p>23 MR HOUGH: Superintendent, that's all we have for you.</p> <p>24 Thank you very much for your evidence.</p> <p>25 A. Thank you sir.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 43</p>
<p>1 an authorised firearms officers.</p> <p>2 Q. We know that on 2 February, when Amman snatched a knife</p> <p>3 out of a shop and started stabbing people, there was</p> <p>4 an immediate reaction by the armed officers on the</p> <p>5 ground that resulted in him being dealt with within</p> <p>6 62 seconds.</p> <p>7 A. That's correct, sir, yes.</p> <p>8 Q. No reference to tipping points, no radioing into the</p> <p>9 TFC; just immediate action to protect the public?</p> <p>10 A. Absolutely, sir, yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Is that in accordance with your strategy for this</p> <p>12 operation?</p> <p>13 A. Absolutely, 100 per cent. The focus was that number one</p> <p>14 on my list in the working strategy was around minimising</p> <p>15 risk to future intended victims, and those people around</p> <p>16 that shop then became future intended victims.</p> <p>17 Q. So if, as was put to you, Amman had bought a knife and</p> <p>18 was taking it back to the approved premises, and on his</p> <p>19 way had taken it out of his bag and started threatening</p> <p>20 or stabbing members of the public, would you expect</p> <p>21 officers to react in the same way as they did in fact</p> <p>22 when he started behaving that way?</p> <p>23 A. Absolutely. And even to the extent where there were</p> <p>24 indicators, for example, removing that knife from the</p> <p>25 packaging en route home without an attack, I would</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 42</p>	<p>1 MR HOUGH: Would that be a convenient moment for our</p> <p>2 mid-morning break?</p> <p>3 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Yes. Members of the jury, we shall</p> <p>4 have 15 minutes now.</p> <p>5 (11.11 am)</p> <p>6 (A short break)</p> <p>7 (11.25 am)</p> <p>8 DS51 (sworn)</p> <p>9 A. For the purposes of these proceedings, I am known as</p> <p>10 Delta Sierra 51. I am currently a detective inspector</p> <p>11 within the Metropolitan Police Service. On the day in</p> <p>12 question, I was the tactical firearms commander for this</p> <p>13 operation.</p> <p>14 Questions by MR HOUGH</p> <p>15 MR HOUGH: Thank you very much. Before I ask you any more</p> <p>16 questions, may I just indicate that this a witness who</p> <p>17 has been anonymised, being known as DS51, as she's</p> <p>18 indicated, and is subject to the special measures as</p> <p>19 I set out at the start of today. That's for the benefit</p> <p>20 of those listening by other means.</p> <p>21 Officer, you've identified yourself as DS51,</p> <p>22 a detective inspector with the Specialist Firearms</p> <p>23 Command. You told us that you were the tactical</p> <p>24 firearms commander for this operation. Was that on both</p> <p>25 Saturday 1 February and Sunday 2 February 2020?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 44</p>

<p>1 A. That is correct, yes.</p> <p>2 Q. A little about your background, please.</p> <p>3 When did you first join the police service?</p> <p>4 A. I joined the police service in September 1998.</p> <p>5 Q. During your 23-year career, what forms of police roles</p> <p>6 have you carried out?</p> <p>7 A. Initially I was a probationary officer conducting</p> <p>8 uniform enquiries, so the 999 direct call response.</p> <p>9 Following my probation, which was two years, I entered</p> <p>10 the CID. During the CID time, I have performed at the</p> <p>11 rank of detective constable, detective sergeant and</p> <p>12 detective inspector. I have predominantly worked within</p> <p>13 the borough policing environment that is dealing with</p> <p>14 the main CID office, robbery, burglaries, crime squads,</p> <p>15 public protection.</p> <p>16 As of January 2018, I joined the Specialist Firearms</p> <p>17 Command as a tactical firearms commander. During my</p> <p>18 time within the Specialist Firearms Command, I worked</p> <p>19 within the firearms pod, which is the spontaneous</p> <p>20 immediate response, the 999 calls, dealing with those</p> <p>21 incidents, declaring them as a firearms commander. That</p> <p>22 was performed for 12 months.</p> <p>23 As of January 2019, I moved into the pre-planned</p> <p>24 firearms office, where I was dealing with the planning</p> <p>25 and commanding of authorised firearms operations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 45</p>	<p>1 finer details and the intelligence surrounding it, I was</p> <p>2 not aware of it.</p> <p>3 Q. And that would just have been in general discussions</p> <p>4 rather than because you had a particular role in it?</p> <p>5 A. That's correct, yes.</p> <p>6 Q. Moving then on to Friday 31 January 2020, do you pick up</p> <p>7 any other information about developments in the</p> <p>8 operation?</p> <p>9 A. With regards to Friday the 31st, I was aware that it had</p> <p>10 now become a 24/7, ie 24 hours a day there would be</p> <p>11 armed surveillance on that operation.</p> <p>12 Q. Were you told what had caused that change to happen?</p> <p>13 A. I was not, no. I was just aware that it was -- I was</p> <p>14 going to be required to command that particular</p> <p>15 operation as of the following day when I was next on</p> <p>16 duty.</p> <p>17 Q. Moving on to that Saturday, 1 February, can you remember</p> <p>18 now what time of day you commenced duty that day?</p> <p>19 A. I started at midday that day.</p> <p>20 Q. What work were you expecting to do that day?</p> <p>21 A. When I started duty I was aware that Operation Osmious,</p> <p>22 I was going to have to command that. That operation had</p> <p>23 already briefed earlier on that morning. There was</p> <p>24 a second counter-terrorism armed surveillance job, which</p> <p>25 would be briefing at 2 pm that afternoon that I would</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 47</p>
<p>1 As of April/May 2019, I completed the specialist</p> <p>2 firearms commanders' course, which is an additional</p> <p>3 level of qualification within the firearms command to</p> <p>4 deal with high-harm operations, such as</p> <p>5 counter-terrorism and kidnaps.</p> <p>6 Q. Thank you very much.</p> <p>7 Before late January 2020, did you have any knowledge</p> <p>8 at all about Sudesh Amman or about the police operations</p> <p>9 directed against him?</p> <p>10 A. No, I did not.</p> <p>11 Q. On 28 January 2020, so the Tuesday before those two days</p> <p>12 when you acted as tactical firearms commander, were you</p> <p>13 on duty in the firearms pod within the specialist</p> <p>14 operations room?</p> <p>15 A. I was.</p> <p>16 Q. Were you made aware at that time of Operation Osmious</p> <p>17 the counter-terrorist operation targeted at</p> <p>18 Sudesh Amman?</p> <p>19 A. I was aware. Not in much detail, but I was aware that</p> <p>20 an operation of that nature was being looked at with</p> <p>21 a view to making it an armed operation.</p> <p>22 Q. Were you told anything else about the operation in terms</p> <p>23 of the surveillance and other assets being deployed?</p> <p>24 A. I was not. It was -- I was aware that it was probably</p> <p>25 going to be an armed surveillance operation, but the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 46</p>	<p>1 command. I was also the tactical firearms commander for</p> <p>2 planned operations across the whole of London, and I was</p> <p>3 aware that there was a potential for a further job to be</p> <p>4 coming in regarding firearms being purchased.</p> <p>5 Q. You refer to the Operation Osmious deployment having</p> <p>6 been briefed earlier that day. Is it right that the</p> <p>7 surveillance team were working to a shift from early in</p> <p>8 the morning to the evening, and that they had received</p> <p>9 their briefing from a briefing officer early that</p> <p>10 morning?</p> <p>11 A. That is correct, yes.</p> <p>12 Q. You've told us about the operations you expected to be</p> <p>13 running that day. Before you commenced duty, or at the</p> <p>14 time of commencing duty, what first actions did you</p> <p>15 take?</p> <p>16 A. The first action I took was to contact the early turn,</p> <p>17 so the tactical firearms commander who had been on duty</p> <p>18 that morning, contacted them. I was unable to get</p> <p>19 a hold of them via phone. So I then contacted the</p> <p>20 firearms pod based in the specialist operations room and</p> <p>21 asked them for my mobile to be linked to the pre-planned</p> <p>22 firearms mobile. That's a method by which people across</p> <p>23 the Met contact me to obtain firearms advice for</p> <p>24 pre-planned operations.</p> <p>25 I then spoke with the early turn TFC and received</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 48</p>

12 (Pages 45 to 48)

1 a handover regarding the current workload with regards
 2 to Operation Osmious and any other matters that would
 3 need my attention.
 4 Q. What did the early turn TFC tell you about Operation
 5 Osmious?
 6 A. With regards to the operation -- sorry, can I just refer
 7 to my statement, please --
 8 Q. Yes, of course.
 9 A. -- so I'm absolutely correct? Thank you.
 10 The early turn tactical firearms commander advised
 11 me that the operation had been briefed, that it had been
 12 reauthorised by the strategic firearms commander. The
 13 strategic firearm commanders reauthorise the operation
 14 every time they change duty to make sure that the
 15 operation is still relevant and valid for being
 16 deployed. They provided me with the contact details of
 17 the operational firearms commander for both the armed
 18 surveillance team and also for the armed response
 19 vehicles, the ARVs.
 20 Q. So that would be the team leader of the surveillance
 21 team, BX113?
 22 A. That's correct.
 23 Q. And the commander of the armed response vehicles, would
 24 that be somebody in one of the armed response vehicles
 25 at the scene?

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1 A. That's correct, yes, and that's a separate officer to
 2 the team leader for the surveillance team.
 3 Q. Yes.
 4 Around the same time, were you given some details of
 5 the other armed operation which you've told us was due
 6 to brief that afternoon?
 7 A. With regards to the second operation that was going out
 8 at 2 o'clock, you.
 9 Q. Just so we know the other work you're doing at the time.
 10 A. Yes, certainly.
 11 So the conversation that I had with the early turn
 12 TFC, they confirmed that they had spoken to the police
 13 operations room manager, who is known as the PORM, and
 14 also spoken to the senior investigating officer for
 15 Operation Osmious. The early turn TFC confirmed that
 16 there had been no change in the intelligence picture.
 17 I was provided the details of the second operation
 18 that was due to go out at 2 pm, and also with regards to
 19 a potential further unrelated firearms operation which
 20 may need to be dealt with later in the evening. That
 21 was in relation to the -- a firearm. I was also given
 22 an update on what the current workload picture looked
 23 like for the remainder of pre-planned firearms
 24 operations for London for that day.
 25 Q. What did you then do in terms of reviewing documents to

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1 familiarise yourself with Operation Osmious?
 2 A. So with regards to taking over the operation, I started
 3 to review the firearm forms. I reviewed the FA2, which
 4 is the policy and decision log for the tactical firearms
 5 commander. That is where it -- it's a document
 6 basically where we write down our decision-making
 7 regarding the operation, what intelligence has been
 8 received, et cetera.
 9 I looked at the FA3 form. The FA3 form, that is the
 10 strategic firearms commander's policy and decision log
 11 where they write a review of the operation and provide
 12 the details of the reauthorisation.
 13 I also looked at the FA5. That is the tactical
 14 adviser's document where they write down their
 15 understanding of the operation and give advice regarding
 16 what would be the most suitable tactics to meet the
 17 working strategy, and also the strategic aims of the
 18 operation with regards to the investigation side.
 19 I reviewed the licence conditions which were
 20 relevant to Mr Amman, and I also looked at the exclusion
 21 zone maps in relation to areas where he was excluded
 22 from entering.
 23 I then looked at a subject profile for this
 24 gentleman who was the subject of the operation, which
 25 gave me an understanding of who he was as an individual

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1 with regards to contact with police.
 2 The purpose for looking at all these documents is so
 3 that I am able to conduct a review of the operation,
 4 make decisions as to whether or not the tactics are
 5 suitable based on the intelligence pictures at that
 6 current time, and document that within an entry on the
 7 FA2. I would use the national decision-making model in
 8 regards to how I would record my decision-making process
 9 around me taking over command for the operation.
 10 Q. If we look briefly at the policy file, the FA2, which
 11 you reviewed, and then at your own entry. First of all,
 12 INQ002477. I'll take this quite briskly. It will
 13 appear on the screen just next to you.
 14 A. Sorry, apologies.
 15 Q. It will probably be a little easier.
 16 A. Thank you.
 17 Q. So this is the FA2 "Tactical Firearms Commander's Policy
 18 File & Decision Log", one of the documents you reviewed
 19 that day.
 20 A. Yes.
 21 Q. Then page 2. The jury have seen this before so I'll
 22 take it relatively briskly. We see the details of the
 23 operation and the subject are given. Go down the page.
 24 It tells us Sudesh Amman and the information of his
 25 capability and intent, which the jury have already seen,

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<p>1 about his self-radicalisation and his mindset.</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Over the page, we see at page 3 the plan described to</p> <p>4 deploy an armed surveillance team to monitor his</p> <p>5 movements and actions, plan identifies that:</p> <p>6 "The subject has a number of strict licence</p> <p>7 conditions. The MO3 [that's surveillance teams] and</p> <p>8 [police operations room manager] will be fully aware of</p> <p>9 these and should they be breached a conversation will be</p> <p>10 had with the [investigating officer] in regards to</p> <p>11 arrest."</p> <p>12 And then the original TFC explains that they are</p> <p>13 satisfied of the threshold for the deployment of armed</p> <p>14 officers being met.</p> <p>15 Then if we go to page 16, please, one-six. If we</p> <p>16 look at "Review (for subsequent [developments])",</p> <p>17 an entry on 31 January, the day before, can we see that</p> <p>18 this is an entry made on the previous day by the</p> <p>19 tactical firearms commander of that day referring to</p> <p>20 Sudesh Amman having shown some interest in the cutlery</p> <p>21 section of a shop, having used anti-surveillance</p> <p>22 techniques and having also bought bottles of Irn-Bru,</p> <p>23 silver foil and brown packaging tape.</p> <p>24 Can you see that?</p> <p>25 A. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 53</p>	<p>1 known as the daily deployment log. So it won't be on</p> <p>2 the bottom of this FA2; it would be a stand-alone</p> <p>3 document.</p> <p>4 Q. Let's look at that now, INQ002049. Is that the document</p> <p>5 you're referring to?</p> <p>6 A. Yes. Sorry, could you go on to the --</p> <p>7 Q. Page 9, page 9, please.</p> <p>8 A. Yes, that's the document, and my entry.</p> <p>9 Q. Do we see that you enter, make an entry, effectively</p> <p>10 adopting the working strategy set out by previous</p> <p>11 tactical firearms commanders copying over from --</p> <p>12 A. That's correct.</p> <p>13 Q. -- the previous document?</p> <p>14 And is it right that you're not being lazy in doing</p> <p>15 that, you're following proper procedure?</p> <p>16 A. That is correct, yes. Unless I'm going to be making</p> <p>17 a change to the threat assessment or the working</p> <p>18 strategy, I would use cut and paste to save me from</p> <p>19 typing because my typing skills aren't brilliant.</p> <p>20 Q. And page 11, I think you add to the log entries. We see</p> <p>21 this:</p> <p>22 "I have subsequently spoken to the [police</p> <p>23 operations room manager], there's no change in the</p> <p>24 intelligence and the subject has not left the [approved</p> <p>25 premises]. Should the subject leave the [approved</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 55</p>
<p>1 Q. If we go down the page, the TFC of that day refers to</p> <p>2 having spoken to the deputy senior investigating officer</p> <p>3 and having concluded that armed surveillance remained</p> <p>4 the appropriate tactic, with two armed response vehicles</p> <p>5 as a contingency.</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. If we go to page 17, please. We see that the overriding</p> <p>8 strategies as set by the strategic firearms commander</p> <p>9 are set out?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Then down the page, the tipping points are identified,</p> <p>12 towards the end of the Friday the 31st, that the jury</p> <p>13 will be familiar with, involving what is done if the</p> <p>14 subject in particular purchases a knife --</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. -- and does various things with it.</p> <p>17 Then over the page to page 18. We see the further</p> <p>18 tipping points concluded, including what might happen if</p> <p>19 he goes into the exclusion area and the way he might be</p> <p>20 stopped in that incident.</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Did you then make your own entry in the tactical</p> <p>23 firearms commander log, having gone through the various</p> <p>24 documents you've identified?</p> <p>25 A. That is correct, yes. The document itself would be</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 54</p>	<p>1 premises] then I shall be contacted by the [police</p> <p>2 operations room manager]. I have advised that I shall</p> <p>3 not be listening to a radio as I will also be commanding</p> <p>4 an unrelated ASV operation shortly and I am responsible</p> <p>5 for all pre-planned firearms matters within the</p> <p>6 [Metropolitan Police Service]."</p> <p>7 A. Yes, that's correct, yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Is that the conversation you had with the police</p> <p>9 operations room manager?</p> <p>10 A. It is yes.</p> <p>11 Q. You also go on to say this:</p> <p>12 "I have spoken to the ARV [operational firearms</p> <p>13 commander] and the 2 ARVs are currently based at Gypsy</p> <p>14 Hill, should they be required. They were fully briefed</p> <p>15 by the [early turn technical firearms commander].</p> <p>16 I have provided my contact details and requested that</p> <p>17 the [night duty armed response vehicle operational</p> <p>18 firearms commander] contacts me once they are settled."</p> <p>19 Then you say:</p> <p>20 "I have spoken to the [armed surveillance team</p> <p>21 leader] and provided my contact details. I have</p> <p>22 requested that the [night duty armed surveillance team</p> <p>23 leader] contacts me once they are settled."</p> <p>24 A. That's correct, yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Do you recall anything more about your discussions with</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 56</p>

1 the operations room manager, first of all?
 2 **A. No, the conversation was around had there been any**
 3 **change of the intelligence picture from the day before,**
 4 **the fact that I would need to be notified by a phone if**
 5 **I was required or there was movement of the -- Mr Amman**
 6 **from the approved premises, because, due to the fact**
 7 **that I would be dealing with another operation,**
 8 **I wouldn't have a radio on the channel on which the**
 9 **surveillance operation was operating on. And again,**
 10 **with the team leader from the surveillance team and also**
 11 **the operational firearms commander from the ARV, they**
 12 **were also advised that I would be contactable via phone**
 13 **due to the same reasons that I advised the police**
 14 **operations room manager of.**
 15 Q. Do you remember any of those three individuals telling
 16 you anything about the operation in your discussion?
 17 **A. No. The only thing that ever came up was with regard to**
 18 **his behaviour around the cutlery section, but it was**
 19 **confirmed that nothing was purchased or taken that had**
 20 **been noted. We also had the discussion for the team**
 21 **leader and the operational firearms commander with**
 22 **regards to the tipping points confirming that they have**
 23 **an image of Mr Amman, a copy of the exclusion zones and**
 24 **they were aware of the tipping points. In particular,**
 25 **with regards to coming in possession of a knife, based**

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1 **on what had happened the day before, and the fact that**
 2 **that was most likely to require an immediate response by**
 3 **us.**
 4 Q. At the end of your review and these discussions, did you
 5 understand anything about the significance of the
 6 purchases on the Friday the 31st, so the Im-Bru
 7 bottles, the tape and the foil?
 8 **A. No.**
 9 Q. So we have heard that the assessment by the
 10 investigation team, which I think was appreciated by the
 11 tactical adviser, was that these purchases may be used
 12 to make a fake suicide belt, that they were in keeping
 13 with materials that might be used foreseeably in that
 14 way.
 15 You didn't appreciate that at the time that you were
 16 tactical firearms officer, did you not?
 17 **A. No.**
 18 Q. In what circumstances did you expect that you would be
 19 notified? Just if Mr Amman came out of the approved
 20 premises or if he did something particularly requiring
 21 your decision-making?
 22 **A. With regards to Mr Amman actually physically moving from**
 23 **the approved premises, my expectation was that I would**
 24 **be advised of his movements from there. Obviously, any**
 25 **changes in behaviour or any concerns, I would also be**

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1 **expected to be contacted by one of those three**
 2 **individuals or anyone else that is deployed on the**
 3 **operation.**
 4 Q. If he was to move from the approved premises, was it
 5 then your intention to continue monitoring the radio
 6 traffic or was it your intention that you would simply
 7 be notified from time to time of his movements?
 8 **A. It would depend on what the intelligence was at the time**
 9 **he moved from the approved premises. Obviously if there**
 10 **is some intelligence or suggestion that he was on his**
 11 **way to commit some unlawful act of violence, certainly**
 12 **that would be that I would be on the radio and giving**
 13 **instructions to those armed officers that are deployed.**
 14 **Just purely moving, I would want to know a bit more**
 15 **regarding what he was actually doing, the look and feel,**
 16 **which would come from the officers who are actually**
 17 **assigned to go out on the operation in that area, and**
 18 **the decision I would've taken at the time would have**
 19 **been to monitor the radio. It would obviously be**
 20 **dependent upon what else was happening with regard to**
 21 **the other operations at that given time.**
 22 Q. If you had been told, for example, over the radio that
 23 Mr Amman was walking unusually slowly, or using what
 24 might be anti-surveillance tactics or doubling back on
 25 himself, would that cause you to play closer attention

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1 and observe by listening over the radio?
 2 **A. It would make me have conversations with the team leader**
 3 **for the surveillance team, also the police operation**
 4 **rooms manager and also the senior investigating officer**
 5 **regarding discussions as to whether or not we thought**
 6 **that the operation had been compromised. If he had**
 7 **started showing signs of being aware that police were**
 8 **observing him, I would be having those discussions to**
 9 **see what was happening.**
 10 **Probably we'd have a radio on in the background, but**
 11 **I would be having the conversations with those key**
 12 **parties to actually establish what did we actually feel,**
 13 **how was that being interpreted at the time.**
 14 Q. You've told us that you weren't aware that the purchases
 15 which he had made might be used to make a fake suicide
 16 belt. If you had been aware of that, would that have
 17 affected what you had been looking for or concerned
 18 about in terms of his movements, dress or behaviour?
 19 **A. No. The reason being for that is it's all to do with**
 20 **capabilities. From the risk assessments and the working**
 21 **strategies that are set in relation to this operation,**
 22 **it's all to do with capability as to what is Mr Amman's**
 23 **capability of causing unlawful violence against the**
 24 **public. Unless there was something at that time, I was**
 25 **not aware of anything that showed that he had capacity**

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<p>1 to conduct out unlawful violence against members of the</p> <p>2 public, and that is -- that would be the point at which</p> <p>3 had I been looking at things -- have I explained that</p> <p>4 clear enough?</p> <p>5 Q. Let me be more specific about it. If you had been aware</p> <p>6 that -- well, let's ask the question this way.</p> <p>7 If you had been told by one of the surveillance</p> <p>8 officers that they had actually seen signs of a fake</p> <p>9 suicide belt worn underneath Mr Amman's clothing before</p> <p>10 he had done anything, might that have provoked a police</p> <p>11 response?</p> <p>12 A. It might of. It depends on the circumstances at the</p> <p>13 time, that if I was told that someone had positively</p> <p>14 identified what they believed to be an improvised</p> <p>15 explosive device attached to Mr Amman, then that would</p> <p>16 obviously change the threat and risk assessment in the</p> <p>17 operation significantly.</p> <p>18 Q. And it might provoke a response even if the device was</p> <p>19 believed to be a fake, because people don't wear fake</p> <p>20 IEDs when they're behaving normally and have no ill</p> <p>21 intent, do they?</p> <p>22 A. I think that's accepted. The only other caveat I'd say</p> <p>23 to that is until someone who is qualified in explosives,</p> <p>24 I don't know whether or not that is an actual viable</p> <p>25 explosive device that they've got attached to them.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 61</p>	<p>1 appeared that they were getting their personal effects</p> <p>2 all in line, as in looking that they are preparing that</p> <p>3 they weren't going to be living after a certain point,</p> <p>4 so it's almost a preparation.</p> <p>5 Q. Sometimes referred to as leave-taking behaviour?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. During the course of that day, after you'd made all</p> <p>8 those preparations you've described, did you have any</p> <p>9 contact from those involved with the operation,</p> <p>10 Operation Osmious?</p> <p>11 A. Yes, I did. I spoke with the armed response vehicle</p> <p>12 operational firearms commander round about -- from</p> <p>13 memory, round about 1.30 in the afternoon to advise that</p> <p>14 Mr Amman had left the approved premises. I believe he</p> <p>15 went out and purchased some chicken and later returned.</p> <p>16 I spoke with the senior investigating officer --</p> <p>17 Q. Just before we get to that, because I think that's later</p> <p>18 in the day.</p> <p>19 From your conversation with those on the ground</p> <p>20 about the trip out to the chicken shop at lunchtime,</p> <p>21 were you told about anything unusual or worrying in</p> <p>22 Mr Amman's behaviour on that occasion?</p> <p>23 A. No, just that he had left the approved premises.</p> <p>24 Q. And you were going to tell us that you spoke to the</p> <p>25 senior investigating officer later that day. When was</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 63</p>
<p>1 Q. Yes.</p> <p>2 Let me put it this way, let me ask you this question</p> <p>3 then.</p> <p>4 If you had been told that the purchases he had made</p> <p>5 might be used to put together a fake IED belt, would you</p> <p>6 have been particularly concerned to know what sort of</p> <p>7 clothing he was wearing or items he was carrying that</p> <p>8 might conceal such a belt?</p> <p>9 A. Sorry, I don't understand -- understand your question,</p> <p>10 sorry.</p> <p>11 Q. Well, you've got a terrorist suspect. He's bought items</p> <p>12 which the experts think might be used to put together</p> <p>13 a fake IED belt; okay? You're the TFC. Are you on the</p> <p>14 lookout for the possibility that he might have done so</p> <p>15 and might be wearing something or carrying something to</p> <p>16 conceal it?</p> <p>17 A. If I had been told about the items and the concerns with</p> <p>18 regards to making it into an improvised explosive</p> <p>19 device, then I would -- there are other telltale signs</p> <p>20 that you would be looking at, not just purely how they</p> <p>21 were walking or their state of dress.</p> <p>22 Q. What in particular would you have been looking for that</p> <p>23 you are able to say that might have caused you to be</p> <p>24 looking out for signs in this case?</p> <p>25 A. Any sort of major changes in behaviour, such as if it</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 62</p>	<p>1 that conversation?</p> <p>2 A. From memory, I think it was around about 5 o'clock in</p> <p>3 the afternoon.</p> <p>4 Q. In your first statement at the top of page 3, you put it</p> <p>5 at 5.10 that afternoon, if it helps.</p> <p>6 A. That would be correct.</p> <p>7 Q. We don't need anything on the screen, please.</p> <p>8 What did the senior investigating officer tell you?</p> <p>9 A. I confirmed with that officer that there was no change</p> <p>10 in intelligence, there was not any suggestion that there</p> <p>11 was going to be any imminent attack, and that there was</p> <p>12 going to be a further review by the counter-terrorism</p> <p>13 command on Monday 3 February regarding the operation.</p> <p>14 Q. Later that evening, did you have communication with the</p> <p>15 night duty police operations room manager, as you</p> <p>16 indicated you would?</p> <p>17 A. Yes, I did.</p> <p>18 Q. What was the content of that conversation?</p> <p>19 A. Very much similar to the conversation that I'd had</p> <p>20 earlier on in the day with the day duty police operation</p> <p>21 room manager, just regarding the intelligence, the fact</p> <p>22 that I would be contactable via phone, that he confirmed</p> <p>23 with regards to -- that there wasn't a change in the</p> <p>24 intelligence and the fact that he had been out, Mr Amman</p> <p>25 had been out buying some chicken earlier on when he left</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 64</p>

16 (Pages 61 to 64)

<p>1 the AP and that there weren't any issues.</p> <p>2 Q. The police operations room manager would know that</p> <p>3 because the surveillance communications would be</p> <p>4 listened to and logged in the operation room?</p> <p>5 A. It goes directly into the operations room, yes.</p> <p>6 Q. And then, later that evening, did you have a call from</p> <p>7 the night duty operational firearms commander for the</p> <p>8 armed surveillance operation?</p> <p>9 A. I did, after they had briefed a conversation with the</p> <p>10 night duty team leader. He confirmed how many officers</p> <p>11 he had deployed on the operation, from those officers,</p> <p>12 how many were deployed with firearms and how many were</p> <p>13 deployed with less lethal options by way of taser.</p> <p>14 Again, very much similar to the conversation I'd had</p> <p>15 with the team leader of the day shift armed surveillance</p> <p>16 with regards the tipping point that's about the knife,</p> <p>17 the exclusion zone, also the curfew times, ie that</p> <p>18 Mr Amman should be in approved premises by 9 pm that day</p> <p>19 and he shouldn't actually be back out from there on in.</p> <p>20 Then I advised of my other responsibilities that</p> <p>21 I had on the day, and again to contact me via phone</p> <p>22 should there be any movements or anything changed that</p> <p>23 they thought that I needed to be aware of.</p> <p>24 Q. Did you have a discussion with him about whether the</p> <p>25 armed response vehicles in the area were to be directed,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 65</p>	<p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. Did you keep him informed that there had been no change</p> <p>3 in intelligence?</p> <p>4 A. He was the tactical firearms -- sorry, he was the</p> <p>5 tactical adviser.</p> <p>6 Q. Tactical adviser. Sorry, I may have said "commander".</p> <p>7 That was my mistake.</p> <p>8 A. For that weekend. Yes, I confirmed that there had been</p> <p>9 no change in intelligence.</p> <p>10 Q. Did he confirm that the tactical advice remained as</p> <p>11 before?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. Having had all those conversations, did you then hand</p> <p>14 over to the night duty tactical firearms commander at</p> <p>15 just before 8.30 that evening?</p> <p>16 A. That's correct, and I verbally briefed that officer on</p> <p>17 the day's events and the operation so far.</p> <p>18 Q. The next day, Sunday 2 February, did your shift once</p> <p>19 again begin at 12 noon?</p> <p>20 A. That's correct, yes.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you once again go through the steps of identifying</p> <p>22 yourself as the on-duty tactical firearms commander and</p> <p>23 having a handover?</p> <p>24 A. That's correct, yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Were you told anything by the early turn tactical</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 67</p>
<p>1 which, as the jury have heard, might leave them free to</p> <p>2 deal with other matters, or dedicated, that's to say</p> <p>3 just for this matter?</p> <p>4 A. I did, yes.</p> <p>5 Q. And did you, after that, also speak to the ARV crew?</p> <p>6 A. Yes, I did. The day duty ARV crew had changed over with</p> <p>7 the late turn crew, who would then change over to the</p> <p>8 night duty crew later on in the shift. I confirmed that</p> <p>9 they were satisfied that they had all the information</p> <p>10 that they needed, ie an image of Mr Amman, knew the</p> <p>11 approved premises location, that they also had the</p> <p>12 tipping points, the exclusion map areas, and also</p> <p>13 ensured that they had the contact details for the armed</p> <p>14 surveillance team.</p> <p>15 Q. Did they confirm to you that they were going to be close</p> <p>16 enough to be able to attend quickly if needed, but not</p> <p>17 so close as to be overt or visible?</p> <p>18 A. Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>19 Q. Did you also speak to the night duty tactical adviser</p> <p>20 just to confirm the status of the ARVs, dedicated or</p> <p>21 directed?</p> <p>22 A. I did.</p> <p>23 Q. And did you also speak to the on-call counter-terrorism</p> <p>24 specialist firearms officer tactical adviser? That is</p> <p>25 S312, from whom the jury heard on Friday.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 66</p>	<p>1 firearms commander about the state of Operation Osmious?</p> <p>2 A. No. It was -- the conversations on the 2nd, as it was</p> <p>3 all the same officers and there had been no change in</p> <p>4 intelligence, they were quicker conversations than they</p> <p>5 had been the day before, that there was no changes on</p> <p>6 what was occurring.</p> <p>7 Q. Did you, as well as speaking to the early turn tactical</p> <p>8 firearms commander, speak to the police operations room</p> <p>9 manager to confirm with that person that no developments</p> <p>10 had happened over the intervening period?</p> <p>11 A. That's correct, yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Did the police operations room manager tell you that</p> <p>13 Sudesh Amman was still in the approved premises at that</p> <p>14 time and hadn't come out?</p> <p>15 A. That's correct, yes.</p> <p>16 Q. Did you have any conversation with the -- with that</p> <p>17 person about whether it was expected that Sudesh Amman</p> <p>18 would leave that day?</p> <p>19 A. I did, yes.</p> <p>20 Q. What was said?</p> <p>21 A. I asked if it was expected that he was -- he was leaving</p> <p>22 the premises, if there were any scheduled appointments,</p> <p>23 and there was not.</p> <p>24 Q. Was it discussed that there was the possibilities that</p> <p>25 he might go out for lunch, as he had the previous day?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 68</p>

1 **A. Potentially, yes.**
 2 Q. What did you tell the operations room manager about what
 3 you would be doing during the day and how you would be
 4 contactable?
 5 **A. Again, it was the same conversation as the day before.**
 6 **I was taking the second armed surveillance operation**
 7 **going out at 2.00, which I would also be commanding.**
 8 **Therefore, if Mr Amman left the approved premises, to**
 9 **contact me via phone as I would not have the radio on.**
 10 Q. Did you also speak to the day duty surveillance team
 11 leader at the start of your shift that day?
 12 **A. I did.**
 13 Q. What did you tell that personal?
 14 **A. Again, it's much to the conversation that I had with the**
 15 **police operations room manager with regards to the fact:**
 16 **any movement, to contact me via phone. I confirmed that**
 17 **there weren't any issues. I asked if they had – if**
 18 **they had had any contact with the ARV OFC and they**
 19 **stated they hadn't. I said that I would make sure that**
 20 **they would contact them, and that was generally the**
 21 **conversation.**
 22 Q. What did you tell the on-surveillance team leader,
 23 that's BX113, about the armed support they had?
 24 **A. With regards to that, I explained that they were**
 25 **directed rather than dedicated, but that they would**

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1 **still be monitoring the channel and be in contact.**
 2 Q. Did you also finally contact the leader of the armed
 3 response vehicle team, the operational firearms
 4 commander of that team, to check all was well with him?
 5 **A. Yes, that's correct.**
 6 Q. Did you arrange for him to contact the surveillance team
 7 to tell them about the location of the ARVs?
 8 **A. I did, yes.**
 9 Q. Now, under what circumstances did you expect that you
 10 would be contacted during the course of that day?
 11 **A. Again, if there was any movement from the approved**
 12 **premises I would be contacted, or if there was any**
 13 **change in intelligence or anything of concern that the**
 14 **officers felt that I needed to be aware of as it may**
 15 **impact the operation.**
 16 Q. Were you contacted that day at any point before the
 17 attack took place?
 18 **A. No, I was not.**
 19 Q. Now, the police operations room manager recorded in the
 20 CLIO log at 1.26 pm, shortly after Sudesh Amman had left
 21 the approved premises, that they'd attempted to reach
 22 you and had left a message. Are you aware of that?
 23 **A. No, I'm not.**
 24 Q. I can show you the log entry, in fairness to you,
 25 INQ002601 at page 44.

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1 If we look at the entry for 1.26 pm a little bit
 2 further down the page, please.
 3 The log is the right side:
 4 "I am logging on as deputy PORM for this operation.
 5 I have been fully ..."
 6 Further down. Yes.
 7 2 February, 13.26:
 8 "TFC contact.
 9 "TFC contacted re subjects movements. No reply.
 10 Message left."
 11 **A. Yes, I never had a missed call or a voicemail that I was**
 12 **aware of. The chances are, at that sort of time, I was**
 13 **probably in contact with those who were going out on the**
 14 **second operation, as they were due to brief at**
 15 **3 o'clock.**
 16 Q. Would you have expected some further efforts to be made
 17 to contact you after that time or only if something
 18 happened requiring your intervention?
 19 **A. I would've expected another attempt if they hadn't have**
 20 **spoken to me, because they obviously felt it was**
 21 **significant enough to make the attempt to contact**
 22 **myself.**
 23 Q. Now, two hypothetical questions then, because obviously
 24 you weren't contacted.
 25 **A. Yes.**

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1 Q. If you had been contacted and told that Sudesh Amman was
 2 displaying some anti-surveillance tactics, so, in
 3 particular, going to a bus stop and then moving on from
 4 it after a short period of time, looking over his
 5 shoulders and then beginning to walk slowly and double
 6 back on himself, would that have caused you to suggest
 7 any particular action be taken?
 8 **A. There would've been a discussion with myself and the**
 9 **team leader with regards to whether or not there had**
 10 **been a compromise of the surveillance. That would be my**
 11 **initial thought around that kind of behaviour.**
 12 **Yes, that would be the initial, it would be about**
 13 **whether or not the operation had been compromised. We'd**
 14 **have had the conversation and taken guidance from the**
 15 **team leader or the surveillance as to whether or not the**
 16 **surveillance needed – sorry – that the surveillance**
 17 **needed to be taken a step back further so that they**
 18 **weren't really – weren't as close as they were, just to**
 19 **minimise the potential for compromises. Because the**
 20 **whole point -- it's a covert operation, and if it's**
 21 **shown that, you know, there's a potential compromise,**
 22 **then we would need to quickly re-discuss tactics.**
 23 Q. The jury have heard, and will hear further, that the
 24 surveillance officers also commented own Sudesh Amman
 25 having a white plastic JD Sports bag held across his

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1 front, which was empty. I can show you a picture of
 2 that, INQ002682, page 29.
 3 If we rotate it and then go to the lower right hand
 4 image. Maximise that image.
 5 So that's the bag he was carrying across his front
 6 and a couple of the surveillance messages refer to it
 7 being apparently empty.
 8 Now, if you had been aware of the assessment that
 9 he'd the previous day brought items, or two days
 10 previous, rather, bought items that might be used to
 11 construct a fake suicide vest, and you had been aware of
 12 him behaving in the ways I described and dressed in that
 13 manner carrying the bag in front of him, do you think
 14 you would've given any particular instructions?
 15 **A. I probably would've had more -- more questions for the**
 16 **surveillance officers to give me a bit more context.**
 17 **It's not unusual for youths or younger individuals to**
 18 **have a JD Sports bag. Invariably they tend to wear them**
 19 **across their front. I don't know for what purpose. It**
 20 **wouldn't be the first thing that came to mind.**
 21 Q. Would it have occurred to you or would you have thought
 22 about the possibility that it was being used to conceal
 23 a suicide belt or a fake suicide belt?
 24 **A. It doesn't look particularly bulky around the midriff,**
 25 **the middle, where you would normally assume a suicide**

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1 vest would be. Again, I'd want a bit more context and
 2 questions from the surveillance team just around that.
 3 From that image, and I know it's a strange angle,
 4 there's nothing that immediately leaps out to me
 5 regarding that. But, again, with hindsight, it's -- you
 6 know, it may appear quite obvious but putting yourself
 7 back at what you knew at that time, it wouldn't be the
 8 first thing that came to mind.
 9 Q. So you can say this: if you had been aware of the
 10 assessment that had been made about the purchases and if
 11 you had been updated with the surveillance information
 12 as I've summarised it, you certainly would have been
 13 asking questions?
 14 **A. Yes, that's a fair assessment.**
 15 Q. But you wouldn't necessarily have jumped to the
 16 conclusion that this person was wearing a belt and
 17 directed any particular action?
 18 **A. It would depend on what the officers who had actual**
 19 **visual control of Mr Amman actually replied, because**
 20 **they are there on an intel-gathering, they are the**
 21 **information flow, so it would really depend on what the**
 22 **officers were coming back to me, again the discussions**
 23 **with the PORM and senior investigating officer to get**
 24 **their input regarding their thoughts and if there was**
 25 **any other intelligence that may support those**

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1 **assumptions.**
 2 Q. Now, take that off screen now.
 3 Finally, if you were told that Sudesh Amman --
 4 having behaved in the way I described -- then gone into
 5 a hardware store which was known to sell knives, the
 6 store where he had been looking at cutlery two days
 7 before, do you think you would have either directed any
 8 action or had any questions to ask?
 9 **A. The purpose of him going into that store, I'd be asking**
 10 **the questions around was that his local (inaudible) kind**
 11 **of shop that all high streets have and asking if there**
 12 **was any information to suggest why he was going into**
 13 **those premises.**
 14 **With regards as to whether or not we'd take any**
 15 **action, probably on the day, probably not. In hindsight**
 16 **knowing what he actually did, it's the entrance to the**
 17 **shop that gave him the capability to go out and conduct**
 18 **the stabbings, but to my knowledge there was nothing to**
 19 **suggest that that was what his intention was prior to**
 20 **going out. If we had that information, that would have**
 21 **probably put a different spin on things.**
 22 Q. In any event, there is this period between 1.26 when,
 23 according to the CLIO log, there's an attempt made to
 24 contact you and a half an hour later when you're simply
 25 not involved in the decision-making or the operation at

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1 all?
 2 **A. No. So I'm contacted just after 2 o'clock, I believe it**
 3 **was about 2.02 that afternoon, from the police**
 4 **operations room manager to advise me that Mr Amman had**
 5 **stabbed two members of the public having gone into**
 6 **a shop and stolen a knife to arm himself to carry out**
 7 **that violence. I was also advised that Mr Amman had**
 8 **been shot by the armed officers. I confirmed that the**
 9 **firearms pod in SOR, the specialist operations room,**
 10 **were aware and that support were coming from their part**
 11 **to make sure that they had additional firearms support;**
 12 **obviously the first-aid side of the business should be**
 13 **dealt with appropriately; and also to think about the**
 14 **fact that there would obviously be post-incident**
 15 **procedure following the discharge of a firearm, ensure**
 16 **that the scene could be secured following this incident.**
 17 Q. You pre-empted my next few questions.
 18 **A. Sorry.**
 19 Q. You received contact from the operations room manager at
 20 about 2 pm, you received the information that you've
 21 described about the attack and the shooting of
 22 Sudesh Amman.
 23 What was your immediate reaction when you were told
 24 about what had happened?
 25 **A. Utter disbelief.**

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<p>1 Q. Were you surprised that this had been happening for some 2 time without you knowing anything of the sequence of 3 events? 4 A. I wasn't aware on the day in question of the time that 5 he had been out of the approved premises. I was just 6 shocked at the fact that he had stabbed members of the 7 public and had been subsequently shot by police. 8 Q. Then, as you've told us, you checked that the firearms 9 pod had command of the situation? 10 A. I did, via the police operation room manager. 11 Q. Did you also then contact the strategic firearms 12 commander, BX88, to relay the information that had been 13 given to you? 14 A. I did. 15 Q. Did you also similarly contact the tactical adviser and 16 the early turn tactical firearms commander? 17 A. I did, yes. 18 Q. What did the tactical adviser tell you was then 19 happening? 20 A. They advised me that they were aware of the incident, 21 that they had deployed counter-terrorist specialist 22 firearms officers, that's CTSFOs, to go to the scene, 23 that the tactical adviser was making their way to the 24 scene. 25 Q. Did you yourself then proceed to make your way into</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 77</p>	<p>1 sufficient additional resources in to support them and 2 to allow those officers to leave the scene. I advised 3 the team leader that I wasn't -- that I was on my way 4 in, but that I probably was not going to be going down 5 to the scene itself, I was just waiting for a phone call 6 to advise me as to whether or not I would be going into 7 the post-incident procedure suite to await the process 8 to begin. 9 MR HOUGH: Thank you very much. Those are all my questions. 10 A. Thank you. 11 Questions by MR MENON 12 MR MENON: Good afternoon. I ask questions on behalf of the 13 family of Sudesh Amman. There's really just one matter 14 want I want to ask you about. 15 We now know that in response to Mr Amman stealing 16 a knife from a shop and running out whilst removing the 17 knife from the packaging, there was an immediate 18 response, as one would expect, from the armed 19 surveillance officers who saw that. 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. Of course, there wasn't in those circumstances -- they 22 were not going to contact you before they acted, 23 obviously -- 24 A. Certainly, yes. 25 Q. -- to respond to a dynamic situation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 79</p>
<p>1 London? 2 A. Yes, I did. 3 Q. Did you receive an update at that time from the 4 operations room that it was the armed surveillance 5 officers who had discharged firearms? 6 A. That's correct, yes. 7 Q. On your way in, did you ensure that another firearms 8 commander was going to be dealing with the other armed 9 surveillance operation which you had been commanding? 10 A. Yes, that was the purpose of the phone call to the early 11 turn TFC, to ask them to resume command of that 12 operation and the remaining London obligations. 13 Q. On your way in, did you receive a call from BX113, the 14 team leader of the surveillance teams? 15 A. I did. 16 Q. What did he tell you had happened? 17 A. I'll just refer to make sure it's ... 18 Q. It's the second page of your first statement towards the 19 bottom, but it doesn't give a great deal of detail so 20 I'm seeing if you have any recollection. 21 A. Sorry, yes. So I spoke to the team leader of the armed 22 surveillance team, I confirmed with them regarding the 23 condition of the officers who had been involved in the 24 firearms incident -- I was aware that they were going to 25 become deposed witnesses -- to make sure that they had</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 78</p>	<p>1 A. Yes. 2 Q. Now, what I want to ask you is this, and Mr Hough has 3 already asked you hypothetical questions about this and 4 I appreciate these are hypothetical questions, but just 5 looking back, you mentioned that in relation to 6 Mr Amman's behaviour on leaving the approved premises, 7 that you would be looking for telltale signs, major 8 changes in behaviour, that might require some kind of, 9 you know, response from you if you were provided with 10 the information. 11 My question is this. I mean, is there anything that 12 he could have done prior to doing what he in fact did, 13 namely steal the knife and run out, that would have led 14 you to say it's time to intervene even if it compromises 15 the surveillance operation and stop him and search him? 16 Anything about his behaviour that would've led you to do 17 that? 18 A. As initially answered, it would be sort of looking -- 19 I can't remember the term that you used -- if he 20 appeared to be getting his affairs in order, if there 21 was something like that. 22 Q. Do you mean preparatory to an attack? 23 A. Yes. Or there was some sort of intelligence to 24 corroborate what was actually being seen by the 25 surveillance officers, something to give that indication</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 80</p>

20 (Pages 77 to 80)

<p>1 that he was at the stage where he -- he already had</p> <p>2 an intention, hence why there was an operation, but he</p> <p>3 was moving towards becoming the capacity side, coming in</p> <p>4 possession of items where it would actually facilitate</p> <p>5 him committing a terrorist attack.</p> <p>6 Q. So what you're saying effectively is it would have to be</p> <p>7 something equivalent to what actually happened, before</p> <p>8 you would have felt an intervention of some kind</p> <p>9 would've been justified? In other words -- because</p> <p>10 obviously stealing a knife and ripping it out of the</p> <p>11 packaging and running out of a shop is obviously</p> <p>12 Mr Amman preparing to do something, so it would have to</p> <p>13 be like that before you would think an intervention</p> <p>14 would be justified?</p> <p>15 A. Or there's some information where -- that he could be</p> <p>16 arrested prior to this. Obviously, that would come from</p> <p>17 the senior investigating officer, a direction on them</p> <p>18 regarding it. So if there was something that he could</p> <p>19 be arrested for, a substantial offence, which would</p> <p>20 ensure that he was -- there's a strong likelihood of</p> <p>21 a conviction at court and he would receive a substantial</p> <p>22 custodial sentence in order to minimise the risk to the</p> <p>23 public, that would have been an intervention.</p> <p>24 Q. So even if you, as the tactical firearms commander, had</p> <p>25 been made aware of odd behaviour or anti-surveillance</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 81</p>	<p>1 more difficult for them to intervene and stop something</p> <p>2 from happening?</p> <p>3 A. As I said, it would require -- the behaviour requires</p> <p>4 further conversations to be had and further questions to</p> <p>5 be posed around the intelligence and what was actually</p> <p>6 happening in front. Nothing would happen -- stuff</p> <p>7 around him getting a knife, that is going to be</p> <p>8 instantaneous, at that time potentially suggesting that</p> <p>9 it is anti-surveillance. It could be a technique that</p> <p>10 some people adopt to see whether or not they are</p> <p>11 actually under surveillance, they try to draw people in</p> <p>12 so that they can actually expose them. It could just be</p> <p>13 that that might just -- he might have just been acting</p> <p>14 a bit strangely on the day itself with regards to what</p> <p>15 he was feeling. I don't know what his mindset or</p> <p>16 thought processes were on that day.</p> <p>17 Q. Yes.</p> <p>18 I mean, did you know, when you got your initial</p> <p>19 briefing on the 1st, that he had in fact been</p> <p>20 demonstrating anti-surveillance behaviour like this for</p> <p>21 a number of days prior to that?</p> <p>22 A. No, I wasn't.</p> <p>23 Q. It didn't suddenly start on the 1st or the 2nd, it had</p> <p>24 been going on for some time; you didn't know that?</p> <p>25 A. No, I didn't.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 83</p>
<p>1 behaviour, you know, this bizarre business of wearing</p> <p>2 what looked like an empty white bag across his chest,</p> <p>3 even if you knew all of that, it wouldn't have led you</p> <p>4 to say, "Actually, we have to stop this man and search</p> <p>5 him", or, "We have to stop him and arrest him", or</p> <p>6 anything like that; is that right?</p> <p>7 A. As I've said, when you look at everything as it was</p> <p>8 unfolding, as you said, it would prompt me to ask more</p> <p>9 questions and want more information regarding what was</p> <p>10 happening, what other intelligence was known at the</p> <p>11 time.</p> <p>12 Q. Yes.</p> <p>13 A. Those actions alone, the sort of the</p> <p>14 counter-surveillances, as I've said, that makes me think</p> <p>15 have we compromised the operation. So I would be</p> <p>16 looking more at the operation, the surveillance, and I'd</p> <p>17 obviously have to take surveillance advice, but then to</p> <p>18 be sort of standing off of it rather than actually going</p> <p>19 closer in.</p> <p>20 Q. But that's the final thing I wanted to ask you. If you</p> <p>21 are worried about the surveillance operation being</p> <p>22 compromised because he seems to be alive to the fact</p> <p>23 that he's being followed, how can you manage the risk of</p> <p>24 an unsophisticated, spontaneous attack if you order your</p> <p>25 witnesses to withdraw further away, which would make it</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 82</p>	<p>1 MR MENON: Thank you.</p> <p>2 Questions by MR SHELDON</p> <p>3 MR SHELDON: As you know, I represent the Metropolitan</p> <p>4 Police.</p> <p>5 You were asked just now by Mr Menon about what he</p> <p>6 described as the bizarre behaviour of wearing a plastic</p> <p>7 bag across his torso.</p> <p>8 A. Mm-hm.</p> <p>9 Q. I would just like to ask you a couple of questions about</p> <p>10 that, please.</p> <p>11 A. Certainly.</p> <p>12 Q. Now, you weren't aware of Mr Amman wearing a plastic bag</p> <p>13 on 2 February, were you?</p> <p>14 A. No, I wasn't.</p> <p>15 Q. Even if you had been made aware, that could only have</p> <p>16 been through the description given by officers on the</p> <p>17 ground; is that right?</p> <p>18 A. That's correct, yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Because I think, as the jury has heard, these particular</p> <p>20 surveillance officers were not wearing body-worn video</p> <p>21 equipment for obvious reasons.</p> <p>22 So if you were going to be made aware of this it</p> <p>23 would have to be because they told you and described</p> <p>24 what it looked like; yes?</p> <p>25 A. That's correct, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 84</p>

<p>1 Q. Now, could we have a look, please, at INQ002682, please, 2 at internal page 22. 3 Could we -- thank you -- could we focus in on the 4 photograph at the top right-hand corner of the page. 5 Now, this is Mr Amman -- 6 A. Mm-hm. 7 Q. -- at 13.22.22, on 2 February 2020, just before he 8 leaves the approved premises; okay? And take it from me 9 that we have evidence from two, or at least evidence 10 from one approved premises worker, that describes him 11 signing out his -- of the approved premises with two 12 members of staff on the other side of that hatch. 13 A. Mm-hm. 14 Q. Immediately after that he goes outside. 15 Now, imagine -- you have been asked to imagine 16 a number of hypothetical scenarios, I'm afraid I'm going 17 to ask you another one. 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. Imagine he was seen immediately by surveillance staff as 20 he left the building, and imagine they did 21 an extraordinarily good job of describing what he looked 22 like so that you have a very clear picture of him at 23 that point. 24 To what extent -- had you been given that very clear 25 picture -- would you have been concerned about his</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 85</p>	<p>1 information, and the people who best know him with 2 regards to being the counter-terrorism command, I would 3 be wanting to know what their thoughts are and what 4 their feelings are about the situation, how he's 5 dressed, the fact that he's -- you know, that he's gone 6 out of the approved premises, what are their thoughts 7 and what are their professional judgments regarding this 8 individual and what actions he's taken at that time. 9 Q. Yes, quite. That was really what I wanted to ask you. 10 You have said a number of times, as you correctly 11 identify, that you would have wanted to ask questions. 12 You would have wanted to ask questions about people who 13 had a closer understanding -- 14 A. Definitely. 15 Q. -- and greater involvement in this case than you? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. And you've listed a number of them. All right, thank 18 you. 19 Finally this. The suggestion was made to you by 20 Mr Hough that if you had been made aware of what Amman 21 was doing on 2 February, after he left the approved 22 premises, that might have included a description of him 23 adopting anti-surveillance behaviour. You responded 24 that that would have been of potential and serve 25 an interest to you because it might indicate compromise</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 87</p>
<p>1 appearance? 2 A. As I answered earlier, someone of that particular age 3 group with a JD Sports bag across their front, that was 4 not an uncommon sight in London. It wouldn't 5 immediately cause me concern. 6 Q. What about if you knew that he had bought some bottles 7 of Irn-Bru and tin foil and sticky tape two days 8 previously? 9 A. It probably would have prompted questions to be asked. 10 Sorry, I keep saying "questions to be asked". When 11 I refer to that I mean speaking with the senior 12 investigating officer and the team leaders and the PORM 13 just to develop the intelligence, to get a better 14 intelligence picture, what their thoughts, their 15 feelings are. 16 So apologies when I keep saying "asking questions". 17 Q. Not at all. That was really what I wanted to clarify 18 with you -- 19 A. Yes, it would increase my concern -- sorry -- it would 20 increase my concern level. 21 Q. And -- 22 A. Not that it would make me -- a clearer firearms response 23 straight away, as in calling forward the armed response 24 vehicles, it would be reasoned questions. My suspicions 25 have been raised, I would want to know further</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 86</p>	<p>1 of the surveillance operation. 2 Now, in order to investigate that in this 3 hypothetical scenario, would you have wanted to know if 4 he had exhibited that sort of behaviour before? 5 A. Yes. I'd be wanting a more in-depth synopsis of what 6 had happened since his release on the 23rd, and whether 7 or not there had been any such operations prior on this 8 chap to the 23rd that had this type of behaviour. 9 Q. Yes. 10 A. But as I said before, with regards to him leaving the 11 approved premises during the counter surveillance, it 12 didn't necessarily make me think that he was going out 13 to steal a knife and stab members of the public. 14 Q. Very well. Thank you. 15 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: By "compromise", when you say the 16 surveillance had been compromised, do you mean by that 17 whether, as it were, he knew for sure that he was being 18 watched? Because there's an intermediate stage, isn't 19 there, where someone is trying to find out if they are 20 being watched? It doesn't mean the operation has been 21 compromised at all, it merely means someone may think 22 they might be, they are trying to find out if they are. 23 A. Yes. As I said, when counsel asked -- I think it's 24 counsel, sorry -- when counsel asked about would it be 25 the automatic thing to sort of come off of the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 88</p>

<p>1 surveillance, as I said, the conversations would need to</p> <p>2 be had around do you actually think he's trying to pull</p> <p>3 the surveillance in further to see whether or not he can</p> <p>4 actually confirm whether or not he's been observed by</p> <p>5 police.</p> <p>6 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Yes.</p> <p>7 MR SHELDON: Yes, thank you very much.</p> <p>8 A. Thank you.</p> <p>9 MR HOUGH: Those are all the questions we have for you.</p> <p>10 Thank you very much for giving evidence.</p> <p>11 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.</p> <p>12 (The witness withdrew)</p> <p>13 MR HOUGH: We are about to move to another anonymised</p> <p>14 witness. In your hands as to whether we start now or</p> <p>15 have an early break for lunch.</p> <p>16 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: I just missed that.</p> <p>17 MR HOUGH: Sorry. The next witness is another anonymised</p> <p>18 witness, and obviously special measures are in place.</p> <p>19 I am in your hands about whether we start him now.</p> <p>20 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Is it easier logistically if we were</p> <p>21 to break now and start at 1.50? Does that just make</p> <p>22 moving people around easier?</p> <p>23 MR HOUGH: Yes.</p> <p>24 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: So we'll do that.</p> <p>25 Members of the jury, it will just make that easier</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 89</p>	<p>1 Q. Is it right that you were the team leader of the</p> <p>2 surveillance team which deployed in relation to</p> <p>3 Sudesh Amman for Operation Osmious on 2 February 2020?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. For how long have you been in police service?</p> <p>6 A. Almost 30 years, 29 and a half years.</p> <p>7 Q. For how long have you served in the surveillance</p> <p>8 department?</p> <p>9 A. 13 years.</p> <p>10 Q. Are you trained as a firearms officer?</p> <p>11 A. Yes, I am.</p> <p>12 Q. Since when have you had that training and authorisation?</p> <p>13 A. That was 2005, 15 years ago.</p> <p>14 Q. In your considerable time in the surveillance</p> <p>15 department, have you had much experience of surveillance</p> <p>16 in counter-terrorism operations?</p> <p>17 A. Yes, I have.</p> <p>18 Q. We'll hear in detail about the training of officers such</p> <p>19 as yourself, but is it right that you would have had</p> <p>20 training covering counter-terrorism operations and</p> <p>21 specific counter-terrorism scenarios?</p> <p>22 A. Yes, I would have.</p> <p>23 Q. May we then turn to your deployments in the week</p> <p>24 commencing Monday 27 January 2020.</p> <p>25 You were, I think, that week the leader of team 3 in</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 91</p>
<p>1 if we do that. So we'll break off now then and we'll</p> <p>2 begin again at 1.50.</p> <p>3 (12.50 pm)</p> <p>4 (The short adjournment)</p> <p>5 (1.50 pm)</p> <p>6 BX113 (sworn)</p> <p>7 MR HOUGH: Just before I begin asking any questions of this</p> <p>8 witness, may I just indicate that he has been granted</p> <p>9 anonymity and special measures by your order of 18 July</p> <p>10 and that their effects are as I set out at the start of</p> <p>11 today's hearing. No question may be asked intending to</p> <p>12 identify him and nothing may be published identifying</p> <p>13 him in connection with these proceedings.</p> <p>14 He is to be known as BX113.</p> <p>15 Officer, may we begin. Could you, first of all,</p> <p>16 please confirm that you are the officer designated as</p> <p>17 BX113 for the purposes of these proceedings?</p> <p>18 A. Yes, I am.</p> <p>19 Q. Could you please tell us your rank in the Metropolitan</p> <p>20 Police Service?</p> <p>21 A. It was PC.</p> <p>22 Q. It was PC at the relevant time.</p> <p>23 In which department of the Metropolitan Police</p> <p>24 Service did you serve?</p> <p>25 A. Known as MO3, surveillance department.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 90</p>	<p>1 MO3 and the surveillance department; is that right?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Prior to that week, had you heard anything about</p> <p>4 Sudesh Amman or Operation Osmious?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. On each of the days from Monday 27 January, to Wednesday</p> <p>7 29 January, were you deployed in the surveillance of</p> <p>8 Sudesh Amman?</p> <p>9 A. Yes, we were.</p> <p>10 Q. What shift were you covering on those three days?</p> <p>11 A. We were the early shift. I believe it was approximately</p> <p>12 between 6 and 11 before we were taken over by a further</p> <p>13 team.</p> <p>14 Q. On each of those days, did you receive briefings from</p> <p>15 briefing officers from the counter-terrorism command</p> <p>16 SO15?</p> <p>17 A. Yes, we would have been.</p> <p>18 Q. Was the surveillance operation unarmed for the first of</p> <p>19 those two days, for the first two of those days, the</p> <p>20 Monday and the Tuesday?</p> <p>21 A. Yes, it was.</p> <p>22 Q. But was it armed on the third day, Wednesday the 29th?</p> <p>23 A. I believe it was.</p> <p>24 Q. On that day, were any firearms officers involved in the</p> <p>25 briefing?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 92</p>

<p>1 A. They would have been. I've got no recollection that -- 2 who was present there at that particular briefing. 3 Q. May we look at the information you were given for the 4 briefings, and for this purpose I'm going to look at the 5 briefings pack dated 28 January 2020, which will come up 6 on the screen. You're welcome to stand so that you are 7 closer to the screen, if you would like, or move your 8 chair. 9 INQ002472. 10 Do we see here a briefing pack of the kind that you 11 would have seen over the course of those days' 12 briefings? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Page 2, please. 15 We see that this began with the background to 16 Operation Osmious, telling you that Sudesh Amman was 17 arrested by police in May 2018 based on reports that he 18 may have been seeking to conduct an attack in the UK 19 possibly involving a firearm? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. That -- third bullet point -- he subsequently pleaded 22 guilty to terrorism offences and was sentenced to 23 three years, four months in Belmarsh. 24 And, fourth bullet, that, to summarise matters, 25 there was intelligence indicating that he still</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 93</p>	<p>1 why he was parked there, later returning with more men, 2 and one of them opening the officer's door. 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. Also, do we see there's reference to a young man seen to 5 be loitering around Sudesh Amman's address under the 6 heading "Possible 3rd Eye Awareness"? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. Just to explain to the jury, what is a "possible third 9 eye"? 10 A. A third eye could possibly be employed by the subject to 11 check the streets and the area around where we might be 12 living or operating to make sure that there's no police 13 activity within the area, or local police, people just 14 looking out for plain-clothes police officers, for 15 a better phrase. It's just an awareness for our teams 16 so we steer clear from those areas. 17 Q. And this person appears actually to have gone into 18 the -- am I understanding it right? -- to have gone into 19 the approved premises after him? 20 A. Yes, that's right. 21 Q. Is that right? So -- yes, okay. About 10 seconds 22 later. 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. Do we see that that wasn't, certainly according to this 25 document, identified with confidence as an associate of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 95</p>
<p>1 possessed an extremist mindset with attack aspirations? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. We see that the briefing pack also informed you, 4 penultimate bullet point, that he, along with other 5 inmates, had displayed a protest in the prison at 2020, 6 jumping on the netting? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. That was assessed on the basis of a grievance, as we see 9 from the final bullet point. 10 If we go over to the next page, please -- if we go 11 back to the previous page, just the last bullet, page 2, 12 the last bullet, please, the final sentence of that 13 states in relation to the incident on the netting: 14 "It is assessed that this incident demonstrates that 15 Shadow Cloak's current mindset shows increased risk of 16 him acting on his grievances." 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. Was that all information that you received over the 19 course of these three days when you were first deployed? 20 A. Yes. I haven't got a complete recollection of it, but 21 it's certainly familiar to me on those three days. 22 Q. Page 3, please, the page we were about to look at. 23 We see that this page referred to a previous 24 incident during surveillance when an officer who was 25 parked in a car was approached by two young men asking</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 94</p>	<p>1 Sudesh Amman, just somebody who was looking around and 2 then came into the approved premises a little after? 3 A. Correct. 4 Q. Page 4, please. 5 We see that the document also provided information 6 about fixed meetings Sudesh Amman had to have at the 7 approved premises with his mentors. What was the value 8 of telling you that information? 9 A. I haven't got a recollection of that. It wouldn't have 10 meant a lot if the meetings were carried out within -- 11 inside the premises. It wouldn't have meant a lot to 12 us. 13 Q. Might it, for example, tell you that those were times he 14 would have to be in there anyway and give you that 15 degree of assistance? 16 A. Yes, potentially. He had his conditions, he had his 17 curfew conditions. 18 Q. Then do we see in red: 19 "As of 29/01/2020 this will now be a firearms 20 deployment, there is no change in intel, an assessment 21 has been made to now arm surveillance teams for 22 self-protection based on the current intel." 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. Then page 5, please. 25 We see that on this page there's a photograph of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 96</p>

24 (Pages 93 to 96)

<p>1 Sudesh Amman with biographical and descriptive 2 information? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. Page 6, some more photographs of him taken recently? 5 A. Yes. 6 Q. Then page 7, some photographs of him, including with, 7 I think, a mobile phone bag, and with another person in 8 the third photograph? 9 A. It's difficult to see from -- it looks like another 10 image ... it's a further person maybe. 11 Q. Yes, I think -- 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. -- it may in fact have been his mother that he had been 14 out with one day? 15 A. Yes it's difficult to see. 16 Q. Were those photos, as you understood it, photographs 17 that were being taken when he was being observed on 18 previous days? 19 A. I don't know. 20 Q. Is it possible for surveillance officers to take 21 photographs? 22 A. Yes, it is. 23 Q. And page 8, please. 24 The briefing pack contained a map, identifying the 25 location of the probation hostel?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 97</p>	<p>1 weapons or materials, or reconnaissance/potential 2 targeting activity." 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. Secondary objective: 5 "[To] identify any breaches of Shadow Cloak licence 6 conditions." 7 And other objectives: 8 "[To] identify pattern of life information and any 9 meetings with associates of potential interest." 10 Were those the objectives specifically for the 11 surveillance part of this operation? 12 A. That was, yes. 13 Q. Then: 14 "In addition to the above objectives, surveillance 15 should look to exploit all other opportunistic 16 intelligence/evidence-gathering opportunities covered by 17 the DSA." 18 Direct surveillance authority? 19 A. Correct, yes. 20 Q. We can take that off screen now. 21 Beyond that information we've gone through, do you 22 recall receiving any other information during those 23 early days of the deployment about Sudesh Amman or the 24 operation that you had to carry out? 25 A. I've got no recollection of that, sir, from those three</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 99</p>
<p>1 A. Yes. 2 Q. Page 9, a photograph of it, with points of entrance and 3 exit marked? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Page 10, received also in this pack an overhead 6 photograph identifying it and its location? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. Page 11 onwards, details of Sudesh Amman's licence 9 conditions with some relevant notes, for example, 10 identifying the mobile phone he received? 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. Page 12, please. The licence conditions are completed 13 again with one note? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Page 13, we see there's a set of maps carried on over 16 the following pages identifying areas of London he 17 shouldn't enter? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. Page 16, details of his former girlfriend who he wasn't 20 permitted to see? 21 A. Yes. 22 Q. Page 17. You see here the objectives of the operation. 23 Primary objective: 24 "[To] identify any activity which may be related to 25 preparation for an attack, including acquisition of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 98</p>	<p>1 days. 2 Q. For those three days, you've told us you were deployed 3 between 6 am and about 11 am in the morning, was 4 Sudesh Amman seen by your team on any of those 5 deployments? 6 A. No. 7 Q. So he remained inside the probation hostel for those 8 times? 9 A. Yes, I'm unable to say that, but he wasn't seen by the 10 surveillance team for those three days. 11 Q. We move on to Saturday 1 February. Is it right that on 12 the intervening days, the Thursday and the Friday, your 13 team were not involved in surveillance of Sudesh Amman? 14 A. That's correct, sir. 15 Q. On the Saturday, however, they were, you were, all once 16 again involved in his surveillance? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. Is it right that there were 9 officers in your team that 19 day? You can look at the sign-in sheet, if it helps. 20 We can look at the sign-in sheet if it helps for the 21 briefing. INQ001656, please? 22 A. Yes, that's correct, yes. 23 Q. We can see the sign-in sheet with the officers' 24 designations for these proceedings included, and they 25 are for the briefing on 1 February.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 100</p>

25 (Pages 97 to 100)

<p>1 Did you receive a revised briefing pack that day?</p> <p>2 A. We did, on Saturday 1 February.</p> <p>3 Q. May we bring that up, INQ002475. We'll just look at the</p> <p>4 part of this which changed between the two days, if we</p> <p>5 may.</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. Page 2, please.</p> <p>8 We see that towards the bottom, after the briefing</p> <p>9 pack, it records that Sudesh Amman maintains</p> <p>10 an aspiration to carry out an Islamic extremist attack</p> <p>11 and says intelligence from January 2020 suggests he may</p> <p>12 look to meet up with Rezwan Khan, that's an old friend</p> <p>13 of his, whom he has been in phone contact with whilst in</p> <p>14 Belmarsh. They've previously been associates. So that</p> <p>15 was that?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Then page 3, please.</p> <p>18 Can we see in addition to the entry about the young</p> <p>19 men approaching the officer in the potential third eye,</p> <p>20 there's a description of another incident of an officer</p> <p>21 being approached by young men, but concluding that it</p> <p>22 wasn't believed that those men were related to this</p> <p>23 operation specifically but more likely to be due to the</p> <p>24 local area?</p> <p>25 A. Yes, that's correct.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 101</p>	<p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. Then do we see the various tipping points which the jury</p> <p>3 are now familiar with set out, including what should be</p> <p>4 done if Sudesh Amman is seen to purchase a knife and</p> <p>5 either leave it in the packaging or remove it from the</p> <p>6 packaging?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. We can take that off screen now.</p> <p>9 That morning the, Saturday 1 February, where did you</p> <p>10 receive your briefing?</p> <p>11 A. I believe it was Mitcham Police Station.</p> <p>12 Q. I think you received that briefing from a briefing</p> <p>13 officer called -- we're referring to as BX174, from whom</p> <p>14 we'll be hearing later today?</p> <p>15 A. Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>16 Q. Before he delivered the formal briefing did he speak to</p> <p>17 you and your team about recent developments and how they</p> <p>18 had been assessed?</p> <p>19 A. Yes, he did.</p> <p>20 Q. What did he discuss with you?</p> <p>21 A. That the subject had been -- the intelligence revealed</p> <p>22 that he had been attack planning and wanted to attack</p> <p>23 multiple casualties, multiple victims.</p> <p>24 Q. Did he tell you about purchases which the subject</p> <p>25 Sudesh Amman had made the day before?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 103</p>
<p>1 Q. And page 8, please.</p> <p>2 We see that there were some additional photographs</p> <p>3 of associates including, on the left, a man from the</p> <p>4 approved premises?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. And page 19, the briefing pack has added some</p> <p>7 biographical details about Rezwan Khan?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. Page 20, the objectives, we see, were as before.</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Page 21, we see information about tipping points laid</p> <p>12 down by the senior investigating officer, and this was</p> <p>13 a new section?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. We see that they begin by recording that surveillance is</p> <p>16 now 24/7 and will be reviewed on the Monday?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. That a surveillance support car and contingency arrest</p> <p>19 car is in place 24/7?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. And authorised firearms officers will be on standby</p> <p>22 throughout Sudesh Amman's non-curfew hours to assist.</p> <p>23 "Any intervention required during his curfew should</p> <p>24 be managed with the assistance of the firearms pod at</p> <p>25 the SOR."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 102</p>	<p>1 A. Yes, he did he showed us an image.</p> <p>2 Q. May I have on the screen INQ003604.</p> <p>3 Is that the image he showed you?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. What did he tell you about these items?</p> <p>6 A. He informed us that a surveillance on an early</p> <p>7 deployment had evidenced the subject purchasing these</p> <p>8 items.</p> <p>9 Q. Did he tell you anything about the significance of those</p> <p>10 items and the assessment made about them by the</p> <p>11 investigation team?</p> <p>12 A. Potentially they could be materials made to look like</p> <p>13 an IED, an improvised explosive device.</p> <p>14 Q. A suicide belt, is that right?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. Did he tell you anything else about Sudesh Amman's</p> <p>17 movements on the previous day or any assessments of</p> <p>18 those by the investigation team?</p> <p>19 A. Just that his behaviour was slightly erratic when he was</p> <p>20 monitored out walking around.</p> <p>21 Q. You knew on the previous day he had also been into</p> <p>22 a hardware store called the Low Price Store and had</p> <p>23 shown some interest in cutlery there. Was that</p> <p>24 something you were told before the start of --</p> <p>25 A. I don't recall that.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 104</p>

26 (Pages 101 to 104)

<p>1 Q. Having given you this intelligence information before 2 the start of the formal briefing, were you then given 3 a briefing which was recorded? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. May we bring up the transcript of that INQ002484. 6 We see that you begin by introducing the briefing 7 officer to outline the intelligence and information for 8 today's deployment? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. If we go down the page, he then identifies the briefing 11 pack. 12 Right at the bottom of the page, he refers to one of 13 the recent incidents of officers being approached by 14 young men in the area, which -- we look at the next 15 page -- he says he doesn't believe to be 16 counter-terrorism related, nothing CT-related? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. Then if we see in the middle of the -- thank you very 19 much -- in the middle of the page, page 2, we see he 20 goes through the details of Sudesh Amman, his home 21 address, his physical description, and then refers to 22 his licence conditions, including the exclusion zones? 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. He then refers to the phone that's been issued to him 25 and the fact that the place of worship has yet to be</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 105</p>	<p>1 made by the TFC or SFC re the assessment level and 2 I would give that information to the team. At the time, 3 I spoke to the TFC before we went out on the deployment 4 just to make sure that we had all the information that 5 was required of us, because it did seem -- appear that 6 everyone was low on threat assessment. It didn't 7 seem -- it didn't appear to be correct. 8 Q. So after BX174 had spoken, you set out the threat 9 assessment levels from the bottom of page 3. 10 Then over the page to page 4, the various aspects of 11 the overarching strategy are set out. 12 It doesn't appear that anyone at the briefing refers 13 to those thresholds or threat assessment levels being 14 too low or wrong. 15 But in any event, as you come out of this briefing, 16 what is the impression you have of the risk posed by 17 this individual? 18 A. This was -- to the team, this appeared to be fairly a 19 high-risk subject to be released out in public, what 20 information we'd been given, and the fact that an armed 21 authority had now been granted. 22 Q. We see that armed authority referred to at the bottom of 23 the passage on screen. 24 A. Yes. 25 Q. Including that that has been reauthorised on the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 107</p>
<p>1 approved? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. He discusses associates, including the ex-girlfriend 4 that Sudesh Amman isn't allowed to see, and the friend 5 Rezwane Khan? 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. Page 3, please, at the top. 8 He refers to the objectives of the operation, which 9 we saw before, the primary and secondary objectives, and 10 then he begins to set out the various tipping points: 11 "if Shadow Cloak does this, then we do that", and so on? 12 A. Yes, that's correct. 13 Q. Then towards the bottom of the page, page 3, we see he 14 goes through threat assessment levels, which we've seen 15 identified the threat assessment to various categories 16 of people as low. 17 Just pausing there, you heard potentially a slightly 18 contradictory picture, at least as far as the layman is 19 concerned, being told: here is somebody with a terrorist 20 background who has aspirations to carry out a terrorist 21 attack, who has purchased items of real concern, you are 22 armed for your protection and yet the threat assessment 23 is low. How would you understand that set of 24 information? 25 A. Well, it was certainly -- I mean that decision would be</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 106</p>	<p>1 previous evening, Friday the 1st? 2 A. Yes, that's correct. 3 Q. If we go to the middle of page 5, the briefing goes on: 4 "The surveillance team is made up of nine 5 operatives. There are eight [authorised firearms 6 officers] and nine tasers equipped on the team as a less 7 lethal [personal protection equipment] option." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So perhaps recognising that you have a team of nine, 10 eight of whom are authorised firearms officers, so eight 11 of whom are carrying pistols? 12 A. That's correct. 13 Q. And all nine members of the team carrying tasers? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. The instructions refer to personal protective equipment 16 being worn by all officers on this operation. 17 What personal protective equipment was being worn? 18 A. It's down to the operative, but they have the option to 19 wear body armour and have other less lethal options with 20 them in the form of (overspeaking) spray, but that's 21 down to the individual to carry what they -- they see 22 fit. 23 Q. And then do we see that the briefing goes on to refer to 24 the various post-incident procedures that may be 25 required in certain circumstances?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 108</p>

27 (Pages 105 to 108)

<p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. Then if we go over to page 6, down the page, the middle</p> <p>3 of the page. We see that the members of the team</p> <p>4 confirmed that they understand their role and</p> <p>5 responsibility, and that they have the correct equipment</p> <p>6 for the task and that it's all in working order?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. We can take that off screen now.</p> <p>9 Was your team then deployed that day from just after</p> <p>10 7 am to just before 7 pm?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. During that day did you, that is, your team, have any</p> <p>13 sightings of Sudesh Amman?</p> <p>14 A. Yes, we did.</p> <p>15 Q. When was that and what happened?</p> <p>16 A. He was seen to leave the approved premises and he was</p> <p>17 seen to go to a local chicken take-away restaurant where</p> <p>18 he made a purchase and he was seen to return to his</p> <p>19 approved premises and we didn't see him at all after</p> <p>20 that during our shift.</p> <p>21 Q. If we look at the national security surveillance report</p> <p>22 for that deployment which summarises your observations,</p> <p>23 INQ002603. Page 2, please.</p> <p>24 You see that you deployed at 07.08 that day to the</p> <p>25 area around the approved premises?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 109</p>	<p>1 day?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Let's look at the briefing pack for that day INQ002476,</p> <p>4 the briefing pack prepared on the 1st. If we go to</p> <p>5 page 3 to identify the one change to this briefing pack</p> <p>6 since the previous day, the briefing officer has added</p> <p>7 this:</p> <p>8 "Shadow Cloak has started conducting</p> <p>9 anti-surveillance techniques. These include numerous</p> <p>10 shoulder checks, entering shops / train stations then</p> <p>11 exiting immediately, multiple reciprocals and pretending</p> <p>12 to tie his shoe laces."</p> <p>13 That passage at the top.</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. So that was new to the Sunday.</p> <p>16 What are reciprocals?</p> <p>17 A. Where a subject turns around and walks the return</p> <p>18 journey for no reason, stops in the street.</p> <p>19 Q. So you and your team were aware that this was somebody</p> <p>20 who had been seen using these -- or adopting these forms</p> <p>21 of behaviour which appeared to be anti-surveillance</p> <p>22 techniques?</p> <p>23 A. Yes, they were.</p> <p>24 Q. Take that off screen again.</p> <p>25 Once again, were you briefed by a briefing officer,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 111</p>
<p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. And page 3, we see that at 13.26 Sudesh Amman was seen</p> <p>3 to walk out of the approved premises. It was observed</p> <p>4 that he was slowing his walking pace and looking over</p> <p>5 his shoulder twice, also looking at passing vehicles,</p> <p>6 including one which drove past him?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. And then if we go down further, we can see at 13.34 he</p> <p>9 went into the chicken shop, came out at 13.36, and then</p> <p>10 had a look around him as he continued to walk back?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Go down the page further. He is shown continuing to</p> <p>13 look over his shoulder as he walks back to the approved</p> <p>14 premises and he briefly gives a thumbs-up to</p> <p>15 an unidentified man at 13.46?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Before returning to the approved premises -- next page,</p> <p>18 please -- entering at 13.50?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Now, that was your team's observations on that day?</p> <p>21 A. On the Saturday, yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Moving to the Sunday, were your team again to be</p> <p>23 deployed for the day shift?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Once again, were there nine officers in your team that</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 110</p>	<p>1 BX174?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. We'll go to the recorded briefing in a moment, but</p> <p>4 before the recorded briefing, did BX174 have any more</p> <p>5 intelligence to share or discussions to have with your</p> <p>6 team before the briefing began?</p> <p>7 A. No, nothing that I recall on Sunday.</p> <p>8 Q. If we look then at the transcript of that briefing</p> <p>9 INQ002485. Once again, you introduced yourself before</p> <p>10 handing over to the briefing officer. Down the page,</p> <p>11 please.</p> <p>12 There's this:</p> <p>13 "The only change from when you did it yesterday was</p> <p>14 ... when he started showing a bit of anti-surveillance</p> <p>15 the other day when he bought those suspicious purchases,</p> <p>16 so that's in the briefing now which all you guys are</p> <p>17 fully aware of."</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Is it right that he's indicating that anti-surveillance</p> <p>20 on the Friday has now been put into the briefing pack in</p> <p>21 that added passage that we looked at?</p> <p>22 A. For the Sunday, yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Do we see there that he says that no new intel has come</p> <p>24 in, and asks whether everyone is happy with the</p> <p>25 background of the job?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 112</p>

28 (Pages 109 to 112)

1 **A. Yes.**
 2 Q. And then further down, he asks if everybody is happy
 3 with the details of the subject and with the licence
 4 conditions and the fact that there is still no nominated
 5 place of worship for him?
 6 **A. Yes.**
 7 Q. Page 2, we see that he sets out the objectives, the
 8 surveillance objectives, in precisely the same way as
 9 before?
 10 **A. Yes.**
 11 Q. And the tipping points precisely the same way as before?
 12 **A. Yes.**
 13 Q. Then down the page, having done so, he checks every
 14 everybody's happy with the comms plan. What's a comms
 15 plan?
 16 **A. The radio channel that we use on the covert radios.**
 17 Q. Then, page 3, please. He then sets out the threat
 18 assessment, as before, the working strategy to protect
 19 life. Go down. And the fact that there is authority
 20 for use of firearms, which has been reauthorised.
 21 **A. Yes.**
 22 Q. Describes himself as the operational firearms commander?
 23 **A. That's me --**
 24 Q. Sorry, that's you setting out that, sorry, sorry, yes.
 25 **A. Yes.**

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1 Q. And as the OFC, that simply means that you are the team
 2 leader of a firearms team?
 3 **A. Yes, that's correct.**
 4 Q. Then the next page, page 4. You see you set out the
 5 circumstances in which firearms may be used, and in
 6 particular that the members of the team are armed for
 7 their self-protection?
 8 **A. Yes.**
 9 Q. And this:
 10 "In the event of an unexpected spontaneous act
 11 occurring that justifies [members of the team] arming to
 12 protect themselves, public or colleagues from a sudden
 13 and imminent risk of harm."
 14 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Is that you speaking then?
 15 **A. It is, yes.**
 16 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Can I just check, can you all see the
 17 witness? Not really. No, I thought not. That's one
 18 possibility. I don't know if you could stand up. The
 19 jury need to be able to see you.
 20 MR HOUGH: Are you able to stand?
 21 **A. Yes, of course.**
 22 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Is that better? It is. Lots of nods,
 23 so if you wouldn't mind.
 24 All right, so this is you speaking nowadays --
 25 sorry, this is you speaking at this stage about the

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1 officers being armed.
 2 MR HOUGH: And you identify that they are armed for their
 3 self-protection and the protection of the public?
 4 **A. This is a briefing format we have for an armed briefing.**
 5 **This is what I read from to warn all the authorised**
 6 **firearms officers.**
 7 Q. Just so that we understand it -- it accords with the
 8 evidence we heard from others -- your team were going to
 9 be covert, plain-clothes officers, and the firearms were
 10 being held to protect themselves and the public in case
 11 a dangerous situation arose?
 12 **A. That is correct.**
 13 Q. You weren't being armed in order to carry out
 14 a pre-planned armed intervention or stop of the subject?
 15 **A. That's not in our remit, no.**
 16 Q. If we follow the briefing down, we see that you set
 17 out -- just pause there -- the top of the passage on the
 18 screen, surveillance team is made up of seven authorised
 19 firearms officers and eight tasers. In total we have
 20 eight operatives on the team, so it's seven officers
 21 armed with firearms, and eight officers armed with
 22 tasers?
 23 **A. Yes.**
 24 Q. I think, as we'll hear, there was also a specialist
 25 motorcycle officer, not a regular member of the team,

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1 who was assisting you that day?
 2 **A. That's correct, yes.**
 3 Q. So nine of you in total.
 4 If we go down the page, please. We run through the
 5 approach to use of firearms, and you say this:
 6 "An AFO discharging a firearm must honestly believe
 7 that given the immediacy and proximity of the threat,
 8 the imminent discharge of a firearm or to use
 9 potentially lethal force is absolutely necessary to
 10 avert a real and immediate risk to the lives of
 11 themselves and/or others."
 12 That's again part of your standard briefing, is
 13 it --
 14 **A. Yes.**
 15 Q. -- for a firearms team, for a firearms deployment?
 16 "The responsibility for the use of the firearm and
 17 any ammunition used is [over the page] an individual
 18 decision which might have to be justified in legal and
 19 disciplinary proceedings."
 20 Then the officers are reminded by you of their legal
 21 powers and responsibilities?
 22 **A. Yes.**
 23 Q. Then there's discussion of post-incident procedures and
 24 how officers give their accounts after an incident?
 25 **A. Yes.**

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<p>1 Q. If we go further down the page, we check that everyone 2 understands their role and responsibility and that they 3 have their correct equipment as you did the previous 4 day? 5 A. Yes. 6 Q. They all confirm that they do? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. We can take that off screen now. 9 Did your team arrive at the area around 10 Sudesh Amman's approved premises shortly after 6.30 that 11 morning? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you take over from a night duty team? 14 A. We did, yes. 15 Q. So maintaining the 24/7 coverage? 16 A. Correct. 17 Q. Did a number of your team members have vehicles, cars of 18 various kinds? 19 A. Yes, they did. 20 Q. Had you allocated members of your team to particular 21 locations around the approved premises? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. You'd designated areas where they ought to be, 24 presumably in order to ensure that Sudesh Amman could be 25 followed and covered if he went in one of various</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 117</p>	<p>1 the form and the proximity of armed support? 2 A. Informed me that the intelligence hadn't changed at all 3 throughout the previous deployments. He also told me 4 that we had marked ARVs, armed response vehicles, from 5 SO19 nearby monitoring our channel and would support us 6 if ever we needed them, if any intervention was 7 required. 8 Q. So if you were to call in armed intervention either 9 because one of the tipping points called for it or for 10 some other reason, then they would be listening to your 11 channel and they could drive to the scene quickly and 12 intervene? 13 A. That would be -- that decision would come from the TFC. 14 Q. If something happened requiring a very swift response, 15 would you think that the ARV or ARVs could attend 16 without having to clear it with the TFC? 17 A. Yes, if there was a threat to life or public safety, 18 yes. 19 Q. During the morning of that Sunday, did Sudesh Amman 20 emerge from the approved premises? 21 A. He did in the afternoon. 22 Q. During the morning, did he? 23 A. No, we didn't see him. 24 Q. Just after 12 noon a new tactical firearms commander 25 came on duty from whom the jury heard just before lunch,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 119</p>
<p>1 directions? 2 A. Correct, yes, or any type of transport. 3 Q. During the events that followed, did you maintain 4 contact with other members of your team over police 5 radios? 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. Were those radio communications, to your knowledge, also 8 being monitored in the police operations room? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. And were they also being monitored, to your knowledge, 11 by the officers in the armed response vehicle or 12 vehicles who were nearby as backup? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. What sort of vehicle were you using that day? 15 A. I was in a grey motor vehicle, an SUV motor vehicle. 16 Q. I think it was an Audi Q5? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. Shortly after your arrival, so around 7 o'clock, did you 19 receive communications from the early turn tactical 20 firearms commander? 21 A. Yes. 22 Q. Did you give that person an update on the composition of 23 your team? 24 A. Yes. 25 Q. What did the tactical firearms commander tell you about</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 118</p>	<p>1 DS51. Did you make contact with her? 2 A. I did, yes. 3 Q. Did she ask you to tell her if there were any changes or 4 if any help was required? 5 A. That is correct, yes. 6 Q. May we move on now to events from when Sudesh Amman did 7 emerge from the probation hostel. 8 At just before 1.25 that afternoon, did you receive 9 some communications over the radio channel? 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. What did they say? 12 A. It was the observation point monitoring the front door 13 of the hostel, the home address for our subject, and he 14 had seen the subject leaving the premises at 1.24. 15 Q. Where were you located when you got that radio channel 16 message? 17 A. I can't remember exactly where I was located. 18 Q. But in the streets reasonably close -- 19 A. Within the vicinity, yes, yes. 20 Q. I am just going to see if we can follow the 21 communications that then continued, using a CLIO log, 22 INQ002601. 23 First of all, before we start on that point of 24 detail of entries, is it right that in the police 25 operations room your communications and those of your</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 120</p>

30 (Pages 117 to 120)

<p>1 colleagues will be recorded by being logged by a loggist 2 and then will appear in the CLIO log? 3 A. That's correct, and we additionally have a further 4 loggist on our team. 5 Q. You do, but your loggist is obviously working at speed, 6 obviously, a manuscript? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. Whereas the CLIO loggist can sometimes give a fuller log 9 of the communications that are coming through? 10 A. Correct, sir. 11 Q. But is it right that sometimes you'll see that the 12 loggist making entries in the CLIO log times the entries 13 a little after the communication because they're timing 14 the log? 15 A. That will happen, yes. 16 Q. Page 45, please. We see an entry for 1.24 pm. This is 17 13.24, down the page, please. 18 An entry for 13.24, a message at 13.22, referring to 19 Sudesh Amman leaving the approved premises with, the 20 description: 21 "Grey beanie hat, glasses, cam jacket with red hood, 22 black robes with light grey jogging. Carries a white JD 23 sports bag with black 'JD' logo." 24 Did that reflect the information given over the 25 surveillance radio channel to you at that time, 13.24?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 121</p>	<p>1 Q. So in these first five or six minutes, the message is: 2 he's come out of the approved premises, he's walked to 3 a bus stop, waited there for a very short time before 4 walking on, has then turned into Valleyfield Road 5 heading west, there's details of what he's wearing and 6 the bag is noted to be fairly empty? 7 A. Yes, sir. 8 Q. By this stage, as you were listening to the radio 9 channel, did you have any concerns about him once again 10 that there may be any anti-surveillance behaviour, 11 stopping at the bus stop and then -- 12 A. Yes, that was certainly -- would have been flagged up 13 and made aware to the team that it was -- may have been 14 an unnecessary manoeuvre to wait at a bus stop and move 15 off again. It's just something for the team to be aware 16 of and could be anti-surveillance. 17 Q. Was there any concern about him carrying a bag which 18 appeared to be fairly empty? 19 A. No. 20 Q. Did you know from the communications how he was carrying 21 the bag? 22 A. No, I don't recall that. 23 Q. Any discussion, as far as you were aware, over the 24 channel about what the bag was for? 25 A. No.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 123</p>
<p>1 A. Yes, it did. 2 Q. Then if we go to page 44, please, down the page. 3 At 1.25 we see there another record of 4 a communication over the surveillance channel that he 5 had been sighted by a bus stop on Leigham Court Road, so 6 just near the approved premises on the same road. Do 7 you recall that as being a communication coming over the 8 radio? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Then up the page, please, to 1.29. Page 44 of the log. 11 The entries are in reverse order. 1.29, there we go. 12 We see an entry saying that he's walking northbound on 13 Leigham Court Road and he stopped at a bus stop and then 14 walked away from it? 15 A. Correct sir. 16 Q. Is that another message you received over the channel? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. Then up the page further, 1.31 pm. There we go. 1.31. 19 This refers to him walking westbound on Valleyfield 20 Road, and it's noted that the bag he is carrying appears 21 to be fairly empty? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. Do you remember that being said over the surveillance 24 channel at about that time? 25 A. I do.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 122</p>	<p>1 Q. On page 43, please, entry for 1.32. Thank you, pause 2 there. 3 You see there's a further communication, 1.32, that 4 he had slowed his pace as he continued to walk west on 5 Valleyfield Road? 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. We'll look at this route in a moment using a plan. 8 Further up the page, please. We see then there's 9 another communication, 1.34 pm is the log, the message 10 is timed at 1.33, with him now walking northbound on 11 Springwell Road? 12 A. That's correct. 13 Q. Up the page, the entry for 1.34 that he's entered an 14 alleyway and is walking westbound on Wellfield Road? 15 A. Wellfield Road off of Springwell Road, yes. 16 Q. Then up the page, an entry at 1.37 that he was walking 17 northbound on Valley Road? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. Now, before he got to Valley Road, had you seen any 20 sighting of Sudesh Amman yourself? 21 A. No. 22 Q. At around the point that he was in Valley Road, did you 23 get a sighting? 24 A. Yes, I did. 25 Q. If we put on screen a plan, INQ003524, page 2.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 124</p>

31 (Pages 121 to 124)

<p>1 Just to orientate yourself, Valley Road is the road 2 that runs north/south up the main portion of this plan, 3 and then -- 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. -- if we look further up, right to the top, near the 6 road that has been cut out, we can see Sunnyhill Road. 7 If we put a circle on that, thank you. 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Where did you see Sudesh Amman and where was he going? 10 A. He was walking northbound, along Valley Road, up towards 11 the junction of Sunnyhill Road. 12 Q. For how long did you see him? 13 A. Five or six seconds. 14 Q. From what distance? 15 A. Maybe 70 to 80 metres away. 16 Q. Did you notice anything about him? 17 A. I did. He looked as though he had the white plastic bag 18 over his shoulder and across the front of his chest, 19 looking like it was a white t-shirt or white top from 20 some distance. 21 Q. Did that strike you as at all unusual? 22 A. Not really. It's not uncommon for that type of bag to 23 be worn around -- in that style. At the time, it didn't 24 raise any suspicion to me. 25 Q. Given that you had been told that there was</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 125</p>	<p>1 have taken him to Streatham High Road, and that's where 2 I lost sight of him at that junction. 3 Q. Did members of your team continue to follow him from 4 there? 5 A. Yes, they did. 6 Q. Could you tell or could you work out in which direction 7 he was heading or where he might be going? 8 A. Yes, it was generally towards a busy area, which was 9 Streatham High Road. 10 Q. Did you give any instructions or directions to your team 11 as a result? 12 A. I did, yes, I asked for a couple of operatives to get 13 down on foot ahead on Streatham High Road where it would 14 be busy, more difficult to control the subject. 15 Q. That would mean some of them driving ahead in their 16 vehicles, parking up, and then getting to the area where 17 he was heading towards? 18 A. Correct. 19 Q. Did any operatives tell you that they could do that? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. Which were they? 22 A. They were BX87 and BX75. 23 Q. Those were, I think, the officers who were later 24 involved in confronting and stopping -- 25 A. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 127</p>
<p>1 an assessment that the items purchased could be used in 2 a fake suicide belt, did it occur to you that it might 3 be worn to conceal something? 4 A. I understand that now, but it didn't occur to me at that 5 time when I ... 6 Q. If you had thought that it was being carried across his 7 front, for the purposes of concealment or might be, do 8 you think you would have taken any particular action? 9 A. I would have spoken to the TFC and got some advice as to 10 whether we reveal our covert tactics and put any form of 11 intervention in at that stage. That's not a decision 12 down to me, if we've got time to make enquiries. 13 Q. So, looking at the situation you were in at this moment, 14 this is your first sighting of him? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. You actually saw him with the bag across his front. If 17 that had struck you as being unusual or for the purposes 18 of concealment, then this would have been a time when 19 you could've called the TFC? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. But as he wasn't in the midst of any pedestrian 22 (inaudible)? 23 A. That's correct. 24 Q. Where -- where could you see him go? 25 A. I saw him turn left into Sunnyhill Road, which would</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 126</p>	<p>1 Q. If we return to the CLIO log now, which is INQ002601, at 2 page 42. 3 If we see the entry at 1.40 at the bottom of the 4 page, we see that there was a message over the radio 5 that Sudesh Amman was now generally walking west on 6 Sunnyhill Road? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. Having taken the turn that you saw him take, he was 9 walking west. 10 Then another entry further up at the same time that 11 he appeared to be walking with a bit of a limp? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Further up, please. At 1.41, we see a message given 14 over the radio that he had an unnecessary look over his 15 shoulder as he was walking along Sunnyhill Road? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. And the message, 13.42, that he had his right hand up to 18 his ear briefly, again as he was continuing along that 19 road? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. Page 41, please. Another entry at 13.46. For a message 22 at 13.45 saying that he had taken his right hand from 23 his right ear and his hands were by his sides on 24 Sunnyhill Road. That would suggest that a phone call -- 25 a brief phone call was made?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 128</p>

32 (Pages 125 to 128)

1 **A. Yes, that we interpreted.**
 2 Q. Were these all messages that you were hearing over
 3 radio?
 4 **A. Yes, they were.**
 5 Q. Over this period, you didn't yourself have eyes on him?
 6 **A. That's right.**
 7 Q. Then further up, please, at 1.49. An entry for
 8 a message at 1.48 saying that Sudesh Amman holds at the
 9 junction and is having a good look all around him,
 10 referring to the junction with Streatham High Road?
 11 **A. Yes.**
 12 Q. He then walks southbound on Streatham High Road?
 13 **A. Yes, that's correct.**
 14 Q. By this point, where had you got to?
 15 **A. I had positioned myself in Pinfold Road, partly north.**
 16 Q. We'll return to the CLIO log in a second, but let's just
 17 locate you, please. INQ002682 at page 26.
 18 If we look at the plan, thank you very much,
 19 maximise that. If we see Streatham High Road going up
 20 from north to south, is Pinfold Road the road running to
 21 the east which is just being marked?
 22 **A. That's correct, yes, sir.**
 23 Q. So by the time that Sudesh Amman was at the junction of
 24 Sunnyhill Road on Streatham High Road, which we see
 25 marked with the yellow "P", you'd reached Pinfold Road?

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1 **A. Yes.**
 2 Q. You were in your vehicle at that time waiting for
 3 developments?
 4 **A. I was, yes.**
 5 Q. You knew that BX87 and BX75 had indicated they were
 6 going ahead to observe him in Streatham High Road. Did
 7 you know the locations of all the other members of your
 8 team?
 9 **A. I was aware BX89 was also down on foot Streatham High**
 10 **Road to assist.**
 11 Q. May we return then to the CLIO log, which is INQ002601,
 12 at page 42.
 13 Could we go right to the top, please. Actually,
 14 over the page to page 41, and further up, please.
 15 We see an entry at 13.52 for a message at 13.51
 16 saying that Sudesh Amman was walking very slowly and did
 17 not appear to know where he was going, slowly making his
 18 way southbound on Streatham High Road. Is that
 19 a message you heard from your position?
 20 **A. Yes, it was.**
 21 Q. Was it a matter of concern that this person who had been
 22 on Streatham High Road before was behaving like he
 23 didn't know where he was going?
 24 **A. Not at that stage, no. It had been fairly that at the**
 25 **times he had been monitored, he had been walking slowly**

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1 **and doing different things up to this stage.**
 2 Q. Go on to page 40, please.
 3 Pause there.
 4 There's now a message 13.52, log entry at 13.53,
 5 saying that he's turned around and is now walking
 6 northbound on Streatham High Road. Initially walked
 7 north, walked south, looked like he didn't know where he
 8 was going and now he's walking north again?
 9 **A. Yes, that's correct.**
 10 Q. Then at 13.53, another message:
 11 "Shadow Cloak's white bag looks empty as he
 12 continues northbound on Streatham High Road ..."
 13 **A. Yes.**
 14 Q. Can you remember this sequence of messaging?
 15 **A. Yes, I can.**
 16 Q. Was any additional comment made about the white bag
 17 looking empty?
 18 **A. No, I can't recall anything further than what you've got**
 19 **there.**
 20 Q. By this time, were any concerns mounting that he may be
 21 using further anti-surveillance tactics, moving in
 22 different directions?
 23 **A. Yes, potentially it could've been another tactic to**
 24 **decrease officers.**
 25 Q. You had heard the white bag referred to a couple of

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1 times as looking empty. Is this sparking any concerns
 2 in your mind that it's being commented on repeatedly by
 3 your officers?
 4 **A. Not at that stage. As I said, it's not uncommon for**
 5 **people to carry bags that way.**
 6 Q. Further up the page, please. Just down a little so we
 7 can see the following entry.
 8 We see further messages referring to him continually
 9 looking around and stopping before continuing to look --
 10 walk slowly, not appearing to look at anyone or anything
 11 in particular. Again, were you able to make any
 12 assessment of what is going on at this stage?
 13 **A. No. Again, potentially anti-surveillance techniques for**
 14 **his behaviour he had been seen doing on previous**
 15 **deployments.**
 16 Q. Then page 39 at the bottom, please. Just a little bit
 17 further up.
 18 We see this message at 13.56:
 19 "Shadow Cloak is held outside Lidl ... [address
 20 given]. He performs a 360 and looks all around him and
 21 then walks southbound ... may have used a mirror trap in
 22 the White Lion as he walked south."
 23 **A. Yes.**
 24 Q. First of all, is this another message that you heard?
 25 **A. Yes.**

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<p>1 Q. May we look at a plan to see the area we are discussing, 2 INQ002682/29. 3 If we maximise the area covered by the map, can we 4 see that the red line identifies the route which 5 Sudesh Amman has taken as described in the various 6 messages and the circled area is where he's described 7 doing a 360? The mirror trap is described as being in 8 the White Lion pub, which is just south of there? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. What's a mirror trap? 11 A. Again, it can be construed as an anti-surveillance 12 technique, where subjects would look in mirrors or 13 reflections to see if anyone was close behind them or 14 anybody they could identify following them closely 15 behind. 16 Q. At this point, you knew that BX75, 87 and 89 were all in 17 Streatham High Road. Did you know how close they were 18 to Sudesh Amman? 19 A. No, I didn't. 20 Q. But did you give any instructions to the officers in 21 Streatham High Road as you heard that Sudesh Amman was 22 stopping outside Lidl and moving south? 23 A. No, I didn't give any instructions or directions at that 24 stage. 25 Q. In your witness statement, it's the second page of your</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 133</p>	<p>1 there may be any benefit in contacting the firearms 2 officers, either the ARVs officers or the TFC? 3 A. Not at that stage, I would have presumed the ARVs would 4 have been monitoring the radio channel. 5 Q. What was the next message received after you heard that 6 Sudesh Amman had headed south and then had passed the 7 White Lion pub? 8 A. BX89 informed the team that he had seen the subject 9 enter a store off Streatham High Road. 10 Q. Now, this isn't in the CLIO log, so can we look at it in 11 the surveillance log, INQ002569, page 3. 12 If we look at the entry, 1.56: 13 "[Shadow Cloak] holds [outside] Lidl on Streatham 14 High Road, turns around again, now walks south on the 15 high road." 16 And then may we see the following: 17 "[Shadow Cloak] into Low Price Store." 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. Take that off screen now. 20 What further information was given at that time 21 about Low Price Store? 22 A. BX89 described the premises as selling everything, 23 including kitchenware. 24 Q. When you heard those words, did you have any particular 25 concerns or focus of your attention?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 135</p>
<p>1 stage 4 account, in the penultimate paragraph, you say 2 this: 3 "At this stage I had BX75, BX87 and BX89 on foot 4 close to the subject. I requested that the other team 5 members stay close in vehicles in case of any vehicle 6 movement." 7 You then say BX75 saw the subject turn around and go 8 south along Streatham High Road? 9 A. Yes, that's correct. 10 Q. So, at around the time that Sudesh Amman is turning 11 around, were you instructing other team members to stay 12 close in vehicles in case of any vehicle movement? 13 A. Yes. I would have been, and may well have put that 14 message out earlier in the -- during that deployment 15 while we were on the High Street. 16 Q. Why did you give that message about them staying close 17 in case of vehicle movements since he hadn't come in 18 a vehicle? 19 A. We have react. We have to be, as a team, in a position 20 to react if he was to get on a bus, if he was to get 21 into a taxi or he was to be collected by a vehicle. We 22 need to be in a position to control that as well as 23 controlling him on foot. 24 Q. At this point, with Sudesh Amman having made all these 25 various unusual manoeuvres, did it occur to you that</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 134</p>	<p>1 A. I've requested that an operative off the team try and 2 enter the premises with him to evidence what he was 3 purchasing or what he was looking at. 4 Q. Evidencing what he was purchasing or looking at. Is 5 that so that an officer can actually speak directly to 6 that if called upon to do so? 7 A. Yes, and it was one of the objectives for the 8 deployment. 9 Q. Did you think, in particular, that he might be going in 10 to get a knife in view of those tipping points that you 11 had seen in the briefing paper? 12 A. Potentially, as it was described as a store selling 13 everything. 14 Q. Because that was in your mind, did you think at that 15 point about calling in some armed support or speaking to 16 the ARV officers? 17 A. Yes, I did, but as -- things happened very quickly soon 18 after. 19 Q. You simply didn't have time -- 20 A. Absolutely not. 21 Q. -- in the seconds that followed. 22 May we now just look briefly at the route which 23 Sudesh Amman had followed up to this point, which you 24 described INQ002682, at page 23. 25 Based on the description you've given, is it right</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 136</p>

<p>1 that he followed the route we see marked in red, going</p> <p>2 initially north from the approved premises, and then</p> <p>3 west before turning up west along Valleyfield Road,</p> <p>4 before turning up Valley Road and then left on to</p> <p>5 Sunnyhill Road?</p> <p>6 A. The route shows him walking northbound at Spinmark(?)</p> <p>7 Road.</p> <p>8 Q. It may be a point of detail that that map misses out.</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. But he walked that general route.</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. You told us that you saw him as he made that turn into</p> <p>13 Sunnyhill Road?</p> <p>14 A. Correct.</p> <p>15 Q. Page 24.</p> <p>16 It shows the route taken further along to Streatham</p> <p>17 High Road, where he was picked up at various points on</p> <p>18 Sunnyhill Road by your team operatives?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Page 25. The position where he arrived at the High</p> <p>21 Road. Back to the main image, please.</p> <p>22 One can see there on the right the pictures of him</p> <p>23 as he was walking along?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Page 29, you've told us the route he followed after</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 137</p>	<p>1 A. I -- on that information, I asked the team, the</p> <p>2 surveillance team, to move forward to assist and try and</p> <p>3 engage the subject.</p> <p>4 Q. Did you do anything else to call for assistance or</p> <p>5 engagement?</p> <p>6 A. I did. I contacted the control room on the radio</p> <p>7 channel and requested the help from the ARVs that were</p> <p>8 supporting us to have armed support.</p> <p>9 Q. That was a radio message directly to the operations</p> <p>10 team, was it?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Not involving the TFC, because this simply required such</p> <p>13 swift action?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. How long did it take you to send that message?</p> <p>16 A. Seconds.</p> <p>17 Q. What did you then do?</p> <p>18 A. I then moved forward myself towards Streatham High Road</p> <p>19 in my vehicle.</p> <p>20 Q. Your vehicle was on Pinfold Road, which we saw was</p> <p>21 a road just off Streatham High Road. How did you drive</p> <p>22 the vehicle onto the road?</p> <p>23 A. Obviously very quickly to see whether I could assist,</p> <p>24 I emerged out onto the junction.</p> <p>25 Q. If we look please at INQ002682, page 39.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 139</p>
<p>1 turning onto the High Road with the area circled where</p> <p>2 he did the 360-degree turn?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Page 30. We see the route he then followed to the Low</p> <p>5 Price Store?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. At this point in time, were you in your vehicle still on</p> <p>8 Pinfold Road to the north?</p> <p>9 A. Yes, I was.</p> <p>10 Q. Which operative or operatives did you think would</p> <p>11 respond to your request to go into the Low Price Store</p> <p>12 to evidence any actions of Sudesh Amman there?</p> <p>13 A. I can't recall who responded to it. I believe it was</p> <p>14 either BX69 or BX87 responded to it.</p> <p>15 Q. Just after you'd given your instruction for an officer</p> <p>16 to go into the shop, what did you hear over the radio?</p> <p>17 A. I heard shouting over the radio, and it was shouting</p> <p>18 "He's stabbing people."</p> <p>19 Q. Back to the CLIO log please, INQ002601, page 39.</p> <p>20 Entry for 13.58. Sorry, page 39. Entry for 13.58:</p> <p>21 "Shadow Cloak is stabbing people on Streatham High</p> <p>22 Road ..."</p> <p>23 That's the entry you were referring to. Get that</p> <p>24 off screen now.</p> <p>25 What did you yourself then do?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 138</p>	<p>1 Wrong reference.</p> <p>2 Page 41, please.</p> <p>3 If we look at the upper right image, please. Is</p> <p>4 that your vehicle we see marked with the purple arrow,</p> <p>5 BX113, moving out onto Streatham High Road?</p> <p>6 A. Yes, that is.</p> <p>7 Q. Then the lower image, please. Continuing across</p> <p>8 Streatham High Road?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. So you drove across the High Road across the flow of</p> <p>11 traffic?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. Had you put on lights and sirens?</p> <p>14 A. I had done, yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Take that off screen now.</p> <p>16 As you drove forward, into the High Road, lights and</p> <p>17 sirens on, what could you see and hear around you?</p> <p>18 A. I could see the shadow emerge, running northbound up the</p> <p>19 Streatham High Road towards the junction I was sat in.</p> <p>20 He came into view.</p> <p>21 Q. So he's running from your left to your right?</p> <p>22 A. Correct.</p> <p>23 Q. North on the west kerb. How far was he away from you</p> <p>24 when you first saw him?</p> <p>25 A. Approximately 10 to 15 metres.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 140</p>

35 (Pages 137 to 140)

1 Q. Did you notice anything about what he was holding?
 2 **A. Yes, I did. I could see he appeared to be carrying**
 3 **a dark-handled knife with a shiny blade, approximately 7**
 4 **to 8 inches, and he had that in one of his hands**
 5 **pointing up towards the sky.**
 6 Q. How was he moving?
 7 **A. He was running. He was running northbound when I first**
 8 **saw him.**
 9 Q. Was there anybody around him?
 10 **A. Not at that stage.**
 11 Q. Did you identify any of your officers in those first
 12 seconds?
 13 **A. Yes, I did. BX87 then came into view slowly -- not**
 14 **slowly, sorry -- behind the subject. He emerged into my**
 15 **view from the junction.**
 16 Q. What happened next?
 17 **A. I then saw the subject turn around.**
 18 Q. You saw Sudesh Amman turn around. He had been heading
 19 north. How did he turn?
 20 **A. He turned very quickly with the knife in one of his**
 21 **hands pointing up towards the sky, and then ran towards**
 22 **the direction of BX87, who was walking towards him as he**
 23 **came into view.**
 24 Q. As Sudesh Amman turned around with the knife and began
 25 moving south, how far was BX87 away?

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1 **A. 5 to 6 metres away.**
 2 Q. Could you see anything that BX87 was holding or anything
 3 that he was doing?
 4 **A. Yes, I could see he was engaging the subject within**
 5 **a handcuff(?).**
 6 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Did you say 5 to 6 metres away?
 7 **A. 5 to 6 metres away, sir, yes.**
 8 MR HOUGH: He was holding a firearm, a Glock pistol?
 9 **A. Yes.**
 10 Q. How was he holding it? In what position?
 11 **A. With both hands, with it pointed in the direction of the**
 12 **subject.**
 13 Q. In a classic aim-and-fire position?
 14 **A. Correct.**
 15 Q. As Sudesh Amman moved towards BX87, how did he appear to
 16 be moving and how was he holding the knife?
 17 **A. He was moving quickly towards BX87, still with the knife**
 18 **held in one of his hands with the blade pointing up**
 19 **towards the sky.**
 20 Q. Was the distance between them therefore closing?
 21 **A. Yes.**
 22 Q. Could you hear anything at this time? I appreciate
 23 you're inside a vehicle and you've got your sirens
 24 going, but can you hear anything from outside?
 25 **A. I can hear shouting, I couldn't make out exactly was**

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1 **being said or by whom.**
 2 Q. What did you then see or hear?
 3 **A. I'm also aware of another operative by the building line**
 4 **also approaching the subject. At that time I was unable**
 5 **to see who it was.**
 6 Q. Were your -- was your vehicle continuing to move or was
 7 it stationary across the High Road?
 8 **A. At that stage it was -- it was stationary. I was trying**
 9 **to assist the officers on foot with some sort of**
 10 **containment.**
 11 Q. What does that mean in practice?
 12 **A. It gives us an area to deal with the subject, prevents**
 13 **him from escaping, and possibly not put so much pressure**
 14 **on the subject so we can maybe negotiate with him, and**
 15 **I was trying to use the vehicle as a tool to do that,**
 16 **albeit in a busy area.**
 17 Q. So you were putting your vehicle across the High Road in
 18 order to form a sort of barrier?
 19 **A. Yes.**
 20 Q. From that position, what did you see or hear going on in
 21 front of you?
 22 **A. I then heard two gunshots.**
 23 Q. How far were you away when you heard those gunshots?
 24 **A. Again, 5 or 6 metres away.**
 25 Q. And did you see the immediate physical movements that

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1 preceded those gunshots in the previous couple of
 2 seconds?
 3 **A. Yes, I did.**
 4 Q. Can you please describe those?
 5 **A. I saw the subject fall down onto the ground, he moved**
 6 **his legs, and then he went very still.**
 7 Q. Could you tell who had fired the gunshots at the time?
 8 **A. No.**
 9 Q. In those moments after he fell to the ground, what did
 10 you notice about him?
 11 **A. I noticed that he appeared to have some items around his**
 12 **waist.**
 13 Q. What did they look like?
 14 **A. They looked like silver-coloured bottles attached around**
 15 **his waist and stomach.**
 16 Q. What did you think that was?
 17 **A. That could've been the materials for an improved**
 18 **explosive vest. That's how I interpreted it.**
 19 Q. So what did you do as a result?
 20 **A. I immediately called over the radio for my team, as fast**
 21 **as we possibly could, trying to keep them away from the**
 22 **situation.**
 23 Q. Did you give any instructions over the radio to your
 24 team?
 25 **A. Not at that stage, because I believe I was updating the**

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<p>1 control room on the radio within the car.</p> <p>2 Q. So could you see what your officers were doing? Were</p> <p>3 any of them within your view?</p> <p>4 A. I could still see some of them with firearms cover on</p> <p>5 them, with their firearms pointed at the subject.</p> <p>6 Q. What distance were they observing from the subject?</p> <p>7 A. They'd moved away from there up to 10 metres, because</p> <p>8 they were still moving back, as I'd asked them to.</p> <p>9 Q. You'd asked them to move back and they were complying</p> <p>10 with that?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Based on your training, if you are dealing with somebody</p> <p>13 who has what might be an IED on them, are you given</p> <p>14 training as to whether to treat it as -- as genuine or</p> <p>15 to examine it or to form your own view?</p> <p>16 A. I treat everything as genuine until we know otherwise.</p> <p>17 Q. Are you given any training as to what distance is the</p> <p>18 safe distance for something which might be a person-born</p> <p>19 improvised explosive device?</p> <p>20 A. Yes potentially up to 100 metres away.</p> <p>21 Q. What did you and your officers then proceed to do?</p> <p>22 A. I moved my vehicle away, further up the High Street,</p> <p>23 northbound, to try and put some form of cordon to keep</p> <p>24 the public away from the situation.</p> <p>25 Q. The jury will see some footage of these events tomorrow</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 145</p>	<p>1 you.</p> <p>2 So that's the movement your vehicle was making at</p> <p>3 the time that are the shots were fired, and therefore</p> <p>4 that gives us an idea of your proximity to the incident.</p> <p>5 Just to be clear, you were aware in the moments</p> <p>6 before the shooting of the officer who was out in the</p> <p>7 road, BX87?</p> <p>8 A. Yes, I was.</p> <p>9 Q. You only later became aware of officer BX75, who was</p> <p>10 close to the building line?</p> <p>11 A. Was the person I noticed by the building line.</p> <p>12 Q. Take that off screen now.</p> <p>13 In the minutes that followed, what did you see going</p> <p>14 on in the road in front of you?</p> <p>15 A. We were joined by one of the armed response vehicles.</p> <p>16 Q. That, we will hear, was at 14.01, so within less than</p> <p>17 3 minutes of the shooting. Would that accord with your</p> <p>18 recollection?</p> <p>19 A. That would be, yes, correct.</p> <p>20 Q. What did the uniformed armed response officers do as</p> <p>21 they deployed from their vehicle?</p> <p>22 A. They approached the subject with firearms drawn.</p> <p>23 Q. Having approached him and checked him, what did they</p> <p>24 then do?</p> <p>25 A. I saw them withdraw quickly.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 147</p>
<p>1 from a number of different perspectives. May we have on</p> <p>2 screen once again INQ002682, page 41. We've already</p> <p>3 seen that as the two armed surveillance officers were</p> <p>4 engaging with Sudesh Amman, you were moving your vehicle</p> <p>5 across the road for the purpose you've described?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. On page 42, we see from the images on the right there</p> <p>8 that after Sudesh Amman has gone to the ground, your</p> <p>9 vehicle has moved forward again so that it is pretty</p> <p>10 much in the middle of the road?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. On page 43, we see your vehicle is marked again with</p> <p>13 an arrow, BX113, in a position to which it's been moved</p> <p>14 slightly, a little time later?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. I think this is still within the first few minutes after</p> <p>17 the shots have been fired.</p> <p>18 May we now look at a series of stills from the</p> <p>19 rear-facing CCTV of a 201 bus just to show the movement</p> <p>20 of your vehicle, INQ003452/14. 3542, page 14.</p> <p>21 Now, this is a camera mounted on the off-side of the</p> <p>22 201 bus which is right in front of your vehicle, and</p> <p>23 it's facing north, as the bus is facing south. Do you</p> <p>24 understand? And then if we go forward page by page,</p> <p>25 page 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21. Pause there. Thank</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 146</p>	<p>1 Q. Again, presumably, due to the presence of a possible</p> <p>2 explosive device?</p> <p>3 A. Correct.</p> <p>4 Q. What steps did you then take?</p> <p>5 A. At that stage I -- I had moved the car further</p> <p>6 northbound up the High Road to get a -- more metres</p> <p>7 between -- for a cordon to give us more space to work</p> <p>8 in.</p> <p>9 Q. While you were doing so, could you see any movement from</p> <p>10 Sudesh Amman?</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. Was he being assessed by anybody or given any first-aid?</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. Just to be clear, why was that?</p> <p>15 A. Because he had what appeared to have a -- an improvised</p> <p>16 explosive vest on that we, I, treat as genuine until we</p> <p>17 know otherwise.</p> <p>18 Q. Shortly afterwards, did you appreciate or did it occur</p> <p>19 to you that BX87 was a key witness, somebody who'd been</p> <p>20 involved in the confrontation and would need to be kept</p> <p>21 apart?</p> <p>22 A. That's correct.</p> <p>23 Q. For that purpose, did you initially take him into the</p> <p>24 rear seat of your vehicle?</p> <p>25 A. I did, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 148</p>

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<p>1 Q. Did you make arrangements for both him and BX75 to be 2 taken away from the scene? 3 A. Yes, I did, sir. 4 Q. In the period that followed, did further armed response 5 units arrive? 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. And did explosives units then also arrive? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. After the scene had been secured, did you speak to the 10 tactical firearms commander or a firearm command 11 officer? 12 A. Yes, I did, yes. 13 Q. And did you get authority to remove the rest of your 14 team? 15 A. I did. 16 MR HOUGH: Thank you very much. Those are all my questions. 17 It occurs to me that might be a convenient time for our 18 midafternoon break. 19 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Yes, we'll have 15 minutes now, thank 20 you. 21 (3.30 pm) 22 (A short break) 23 (3.45 pm) 24 Questions by MR MENON 25 MR MENON: Good afternoon, officer. I ask questions on</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 149</p>	<p>1 be a slightly different risk category. 2 MR MENON: I mean, just jumping ahead in terms of what 3 tragically happened the next day, I mean that was 4 clearly not an accurate assessment, was it? 5 A. No, it wasn't. 6 Q. Okay. 7 Moving then 24 hours forward to the briefing on 8 2 February, if we just look at the briefing document for 9 that again, INQ002476. Flip that, please, and go to the 10 third page, please. The first paragraph please. 11 Mr Hough pointed out to you that the top three lines 12 were the only addition in this briefing in comparison 13 with previous briefings on earlier days; do you recall 14 that? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. I know you weren't involved throughout the time that 17 Mr Amman was -- after he was released from Belmarsh, but 18 it's not right, is it, that he only started conducting 19 anti-surveillance techniques the day before? I mean, 20 I can take you through the logs, but I just wonder if we 21 could short-circuit this? 22 A. No, I got the impression that he had been doing it most 23 of the week, that people -- that teams had seen him. 24 Q. I'm quite right -- I mean, I'm happy to -- given that 25 answer, I'm not going to take you to the logs, but just</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 151</p>
<p>1 behalf of the family of Sudesh Amman. 2 Can I start with the briefing that you received on 3 the morning of 1 February, the day before the incident. 4 You were asked about the fact that the threat assessment 5 on the document you were shown earlier indicated 6 classified as low; do you remember? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. I think you expressed some surprise about that at the 9 time, which was why you telephoned the tactical firearms 10 commander for clarification; is that right? 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. Because it didn't seem to square, is this right, with 13 everything else you knew about Sudesh Amman and the high 14 risk that he posed; is that fair? 15 A. That's correct. 16 Q. What did she say in relation to that query? 17 A. It was he, at that time. 18 Q. It was a he, sorry. 19 A. Yes, I think it was explained that because we had assets 20 to deal with the subject if anything was to happen, he 21 would still pose as a low risk in a lot of those 22 departments that he was shown as a low risk. 23 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Because of what was in place to 24 nullify the threat? 25 A. Yes, if we were unarmed, then I would suggest it would</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 150</p>	<p>1 to be clear about it, the logs for the 26th, the 27th, 2 the 28th, the 29th and the 31st all show him at 3 different times either looking over his shoulder or 4 doing other things that the police felt might be, might 5 be, anti-surveillance? 6 A. That's correct, yes. 7 Q. Was there, on the morning of 2 February, any specific 8 plan at that stage, or the phrase is tipping point, 9 whatever you prefer, as to what to do if Mr Amman 10 entered a shop, as he later did, where you knew that 11 knives were sold? 12 A. One of the objectives was to evidence his 13 attack-planning materials potentially to help him 14 conduct that. 15 Q. Yes. And I appreciate you took swift action. As soon 16 as he went in, you said over the radio, "Somebody, you 17 know, go in, follow him." 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. What I'm asking you, the briefing, was that possibility 20 specifically countenanced at that stage? 21 A. No, it wouldn't have been. 22 Q. But you did what you did at the time when you heard he 23 was entering the Low Price Store? 24 A. Yes. 25 Q. Now, just very quickly on the white bag point.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 152</p>

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1 I entirely accept your point that there's nothing
 2 unusual about anybody, let alone a young man, carrying
 3 around a white JD Sports bag. No dispute about that.
 4 I mean, the difference here, I am sure you agree, is
 5 that it's not just the way he was wearing it, but the
 6 fact that it appeared empty. I mean, that was unusual
 7 at the very least, wasn't it? I'm not saying it's
 8 criminal, but it's unusual, isn't it?
 9 **A. It's slightly unusual, yes.**
 10 Q. It might indicate -- and I'm not suggesting anything
 11 more than might -- might indicate that he was trying to
 12 use the bag as some kind of cloak effectively to cover
 13 what he was -- what he had underneath?
 14 **A. Yes, potentially.**
 15 Q. Or to disguise the fact that he may have been a bit
 16 bulky, because, as we now know, he had that, you know,
 17 very amateurishly constructed suicide vest underneath
 18 his jacket, didn't he?
 19 **A. Yes.**
 20 Q. Moving ahead then to your positioning on Pinfold Road,
 21 as you describe, and what you heard over the radio. I'm
 22 just going to put your contemporaneous account of this
 23 in your witness statement on the screen so we can just
 24 deal with it point by point. Could we have INQ002148,
 25 please. This is your second witness statement dated

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1 6 February, four days later. Could we have the second
 2 page, please, the final paragraph beginning, "As
 3 I finished". Could we have that blown up please. Can
 4 you see that now?
 5 **A. Yes, sir.**
 6 Q. I'll just read it out:
 7 "As I finished saying that I heard shouting over the
 8 radio channel from one of my team stating, 'He's
 9 stabbing people!' I don't know who said that but
 10 immediately informed the team to move forward to assist
 11 in engaging the subject and requested armed support from
 12 the control room at SO15."
 13 You said that had taken seconds for you to do?
 14 **A. Yes.**
 15 Q. "I moved my vehicle forward towards the junction of
 16 Streatham High Road and as I did so I saw Subject Shadow
 17 Cloak running northbound along Streatham High Road on
 18 the west kerb carrying a large kitchen knife in one of
 19 his hands. It appeared to have a darker handle and a
 20 shiny blade of approximately 7 to 8 inches. When
 21 I first saw the subject, I was sat in my vehicle, alone
 22 on the junction of the High Road and Pinfold Road. He
 23 immediately stopped opposite the junction of
 24 Pinfold Road and turned around ..."
 25 Just pausing there, that's literally opposite the

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1 Boots, isn't it?
 2 **A. That's correct, yes.**
 3 Q. You saw him running from left to right, you saw the
 4 knife before he stopped, and then at the Boots or
 5 thereabouts, he turns around in the way you described
 6 and goes back in the other direction southbound, doesn't
 7 he?
 8 **A. Towards the officers, yes.**
 9 Q. Towards the officers. You haven't mentioned them as
 10 yet, but you're about to.
 11 Then you say this:
 12 "He ... started walking south with the knife held in
 13 one of his hands above his waist line with the point of
 14 the knife angled towards the sky. As I saw the subject
 15 walk south I saw BX87 come into view running north along
 16 the west kerb of Streatham High Road. I was also aware
 17 of ..."
 18 I'll just re-read that since we hadn't turned the
 19 page. Thank you.
 20 So you saw him turn around, walk south with the
 21 knife held in one of his hands above his waist line,
 22 with the point of the knife angled towards the sky.
 23 "As I saw the subject walk south I saw BX87 come
 24 into view running north along the west kerb of Streatham
 25 High Road. I was also aware of another figure behind

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1 BX87 ..."
 2 We now know that's BX75?
 3 **A. That's correct.**
 4 Q. "... nearer the building line as they approached Subject
 5 Shadow Cloak. I saw Subject Shadow Cloak with the knife
 6 raised above the waist pointing to the sky as he walked
 7 towards BX87 who was closing him down. When I first saw
 8 BX87 he was engaging the subject with his handgun raised
 9 and pointing it at the subject. I heard shouting voices
 10 but I was unable to make out what was being said as I
 11 was within my vehicle. As the subject came into my view
 12 I immediately pulled my vehicle across Streatham High
 13 Road towards the subject to assist in containing him and
 14 to keep a sterile area whilst we dealt with him."
 15 Pausing there, we saw that on the bus footage.
 16 I mean, once you're into that junction, as you say, you
 17 are 5 to 6 metres or thereabouts away; yes?
 18 **A. Yes.**
 19 Q. You've got a clear and unobstructed view of what was
 20 happening in front of you, obviously, through your
 21 windscreen?
 22 **A. Yes.**
 23 Q. Yes.
 24 "I drove my vehicle across the High Road and when
 25 I was approximately 7 to 8 metres away ..."

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<p>1 You say slightly more here, it doesn't matter. 2 "... I heard two shot sounds being discharged and 3 the subject drop immediately to the ground on the west 4 footway opposite the junction with Pinfold Road ... The 5 subject moved slightly and then laid still. As he laid 6 there I could see silver-coloured bottles attached 7 around his waist and stomach. After seeing the items 8 around his waist I removed my vehicle a bit further 9 north along Streatham High Road." 10 I mean, that's accurate, that account? 11 A. Yes, it is. 12 Q. I mean, it doesn't -- I don't want to labour this point, 13 because it's tiny and it's potentially inconsequential, 14 but the reason I just wanted to go through all of that 15 was that after he turned around and he moved back, you 16 said earlier he was running and the statement says he 17 was walking. It's not a significant point, but you 18 accept that walking is what you said at the time; is 19 that fair? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. I think you can see that from the stills, as much as one 22 can make it out, that we saw from the bus; is that fair? 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. Thank you. 25 Finally this. In your opinion, as someone who has</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 157</p>	<p>1 A. Yes. 2 Q. I think you are saying, given he had a knife in his 3 hand, it just may not protect them in the circumstances; 4 is that right? 5 A. That is correct. 6 Q. Is that the basis of your assessment -- 7 A. Yes, it is. 8 Q. -- that that was the only option they had? 9 A. Yes. 10 MR MENON: Thank you. That's all I ask. 11 Questions by MR SHELDON 12 NEW SPEAKER: Good afternoon, officer. As you know, I act 13 for the Metropolitan Police. 14 I just have one topic to deal with, please, which is 15 the behaviour of Sudesh Amman on the afternoon leading 16 up to the attack as witnessed by you and your team. 17 Now, although you had been on duty on the 27th, 28th 18 and 29th, neither you nor your team had in fact 19 encountered Amman on any of those days; is that right? 20 A. That's correct, sir. 21 Q. He hadn't come out of the approved premises on any of 22 the mornings -- 23 A. He hadn't been seen at all on any of our deployments. 24 Q. Prior to the day of the attack, the only time you and 25 your team had encountered him was the previous day; is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 159</p>
<p>1 been a firearms officer for as long as you have been and 2 clearly was the leader of the team on the day in 3 question, did BX87 and BX75 have any other realistic 4 choice in the circumstances other than to use their 5 firearms as they did? 6 A. Absolutely not. They had no time to. 7 Q. (1) because there was no time as you say; is that right? 8 (2) because of the distance? 9 A. Correct. 10 Q. What is the position with tasers? I mean, would they 11 not be effective in a situation like this? 12 A. He was wearing lots of clothing and you have paths from 13 a taser that conducts electricity which would cause some 14 sort of impact, so it probably wouldn't have had 15 a reaction to the subject, and it -- it means the 16 officers have to get close to the subject and we may 17 well have had a different result as a consequence, using 18 taser as an option. 19 Q. So (1) it may not be effective or as effective as it 20 would otherwise be because of multiple layers of 21 clothing? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. (2) how close do you have to get? 24 A. I think the maximum is 15 to 18 feet a taser can fire. 25 Q. Okay. So that's 4 or 5 -- I mean, very close?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 158</p>	<p>1 that right? 2 A. That's correct. 3 Q. When he had gone out, as we've seen already, for 4 22 minutes or thereabouts to buy from lunch from Maxin's 5 chicken shop? 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. Can I just look, please, at a couple of entries in the 8 CLIO log relating to that event. It's INQ002601, 9 please. 10 Can we go first to page 69. 11 It's the second entry, or in fact if you just give 12 us the top half of the page, that will be very helpful. 13 Thank you. 14 Second entry down, officer, we have a record of 15 Amman leaving the approved premises wearing, as it 16 happens, exactly the same clothes that he was wearing 17 the following day; yes? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. At about lunchtime, 13.23, which coincidentally is 20 pretty much exactly the same time that he left on the 21 day of the attack; yes? 22 A. Yes, that's correct sir. 23 Q. Could we go, please, a page up to page 68 and the top 24 entry in blue. We have there an observation shortly 25 after he leaves to the effect that he looks over his</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 160</p>

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<p>1 shoulder, slows his pace down as he continues along 2 Crown Lane, and then continues to look over his shoulder 3 as he proceeds along Crown Lane. The top entry. Yes? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. So, I mean, it's one of your officers, I don't know if 6 it's you specifically, but the implication seems to be 7 demonstrating what might be some anti-surveillance 8 behaviour? 9 A. That is correct, yes. 10 Q. Could we then go, please, to page 66. 11 If we go to the middle entry, please. There we go, 12 thank you, just stop there that will be great, the one 13 created at 13.37. 14 He exits Maxin Chicken carrying a white carrier bag 15 potentially with chicken boxes in it, has a good look 16 around him as he continues to walk back towards Crown 17 Lane. 18 So, again, an indication of what might be 19 anti-surveillance behaviour? 20 A. That's correct, yes. 21 Q. And then I think finally for these purposes can we go to 22 page 65. Look at the top entry, please. 23 He is doing something with his coat, walking very, 24 very slowly, and continuing to look over his shoulder, 25 which again, perhaps, is an indication of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 161</p>	<p>1 Q. Wearing, as you'll see from the bottom of that entry, 2 pretty much the same sort of outfit -- 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. -- that he was wearing before. 5 Page 95, please, and if we could go down to the 6 bottom half of the page. 7 He goes into -- or he's been into Crown Point Pizza 8 & Grill. He goes out, stops at a bus stop directly 9 outside, yes? But doesn't stay there for very long. 10 Goes back into Crown Point Pizza & Grill. 11 Then if we go to page 94, please. First blue entry, 12 there we go. Stop there, please. 13 He leaves Crown Point Pizza & Grill, turning right, 14 carrying a white carrier bag, and take it from me, he 15 goes back to the approved premises. 16 So on the Friday and on the Saturday, he leaves the 17 approved premises, he exhibits behaviour of precisely 18 the same nature that you observed, anti-surveillance, 19 potentially, and all he does is buy his lunch and go 20 home again? 21 A. That is correct, yes, sir. 22 Q. On the Sunday, he leaves the approved premises at 23 lunchtime, displaying anti-surveillance behaviour, but 24 goes on to grab a knife off a shop display and starts 25 stabbing people.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 163</p>
<p>1 anti-surveillance behaviour? 2 A. Yes, that's correct sir. 3 Q. I said finally; inevitably there was one more entry that 4 I just wanted to show you for these purposes, and that's 5 the next page up, page 64. Thank you, if we just stop 6 there. Top entry. 7 There is a reference to him potentially -- or to 8 a potential unidentified associate of Shadow Cloak who 9 is noticed during the course of this excursion walking 10 along Leigham Court Road carrying a white plastic bag? 11 A. Yes, sir. 12 Q. Now, on this occasion, he left the approved premises at 13 lunchtime, displayed what might well be 14 anti-surveillance behaviour, walking slowly, looking 15 around, and so on, and all he did was go and buy his 16 lunch; yes? 17 A. Yes, that's correct. 18 Q. On the previous day, the 31st, which is a Friday -- you 19 weren't on duty but I am going to use you to, I'm 20 afraid, illustrate this, if I may -- he also left the 21 approved premises at lunchtime. Could we look please at 22 page 98 in the same document. Top entry, please. He 23 leaves the approved premises at 13.46, holding a mobile 24 phone to his ear. Do you see where I am? 25 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 162</p>	<p>1 Now, looking back, as I know you have, officer, very 2 carefully, at these events, do you consider that you and 3 your team could or should have anticipated what he was 4 going to do on the Sunday? 5 A. No, absolutely not. 6 Q. Now, it was put to you in relation to the white carrier 7 bag -- and I am talking about the white carrier bag he 8 was carrying on the Sunday, not the white carrier bags 9 he was carrying on the Friday or the Saturday -- 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. -- it was put to you that it was at least unusual for 12 him to be carrying an empty or apparently empty or 13 apparently almost empty white carrier bag. In your 14 experience, officer -- forget for present purposes your 15 expertise in surveillance and counter-terrorism. In 16 your experience, how unusual is it these days to carry 17 an empty carrier bag when you go shopping? 18 A. I would say it's not unusual to carry an empty carrier 19 bag. 20 Q. And the route that Sudesh Amman took on the day of his 21 attack took him to Streatham High Road, didn't it? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. What are there on Streatham High Road? 24 A. Plenty of shops. 25 MR SHELDON: Yes, thank you very much officer those are all</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 164</p>

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<p>1 my questions.</p> <p>2 MR HOUGH: Just before you leave, officer, in relation to</p> <p>3 the last line of questioning. Are you aware how</p> <p>4 Sudesh Amman was carrying the white carrier bags he had</p> <p>5 on the previous days, including the ones he used to</p> <p>6 carry chicken?</p> <p>7 A. No, I wasn't aware.</p> <p>8 MR HOUGH: Thank you very much. Sir, those are all the</p> <p>9 questions I have for this officer.</p> <p>10 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Thank you very much.</p> <p>11 MR HOUGH: Sir, the next witness is BX174. He will be</p> <p>12 a very brief witness. We may well finish him today.</p> <p>13 Just as he's entering the witness box, can I confirm</p> <p>14 that this is another officer who has been granted</p> <p>15 anonymity and special measures with the effects</p> <p>16 I summarised earlier in the day. Thank you.</p> <p>17 BX174 (sworn)</p> <p>18 Questions by MR HOUGH</p> <p>19 MR HOUGH: Could you please confirm that you are the officer</p> <p>20 designated as BX174 for these proceedings?</p> <p>21 A. That's correct.</p> <p>22 Q. Could you please tell us your rank and the force and</p> <p>23 department in which you serve?</p> <p>24 A. Yes, my rank is a PC. I work for the Metropolitan</p> <p>25 Police and I work in the corporate asset support unit,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 165</p>	<p>1 Q. So, in the case of an armed surveillance deployment, is</p> <p>2 it right that for the first deployment which is armed,</p> <p>3 the tactical firearms commander will primarily conduct</p> <p>4 the briefing?</p> <p>5 A. Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>6 Q. And that thereafter later briefings will be given by</p> <p>7 a combination of the surveillance team leader -- like</p> <p>8 the witness we've just heard from?</p> <p>9 A. Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>10 Q. -- and yourself as the briefing officer?</p> <p>11 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p>12 Q. Is that because the surveillance team leader tells the</p> <p>13 officers about, for example, their firearms</p> <p>14 responsibilities?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. And you contribute to the briefing information about the</p> <p>17 subject and the investigation, what your department</p> <p>18 knows about?</p> <p>19 A. Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>20 Q. Turning then to Operation Osmious, when did you first</p> <p>21 become involved in any role in relation to Operation</p> <p>22 Osmious, the investigation into Sudesh Amman?</p> <p>23 A. Yes, could I refer to my statement?</p> <p>24 Q. Of course.</p> <p>25 A. Thank you so much.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 167</p>
<p>1 which is part of SO15.</p> <p>2 Q. Is it right that you were the officer who briefed the</p> <p>3 surveillance team which was deployed in relation to</p> <p>4 Sudesh Amman on 2 February 2020?</p> <p>5 A. That is correct.</p> <p>6 Q. You've told us that you were working in the covert asset</p> <p>7 support unit of the counter-terrorism command. What,</p> <p>8 for our purposes, is the relevant role of the covert</p> <p>9 asset support unit in the sort of task you were involved</p> <p>10 with that weekend?</p> <p>11 A. Yes. So my role is part of the SO15 CASU planning team</p> <p>12 and that involves preparing secret briefings, putting</p> <p>13 intelligence together for those briefings, and going out</p> <p>14 to brief surveillance teams on those particular</p> <p>15 operations.</p> <p>16 Q. In doing that, do you receive assistance from the SO15</p> <p>17 investigation team and sometimes from an allied MI5</p> <p>18 investigation team working on a priority operation?</p> <p>19 A. That is correct.</p> <p>20 Q. Do you also yourself engage in some covert work?</p> <p>21 A. That is correct, yes.</p> <p>22 Q. If a surveillance team is armed and a team has not</p> <p>23 previously been deployed to the operation, will</p> <p>24 a firearms command officer also brief the team?</p> <p>25 A. That is correct for the very first briefing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 166</p>	<p>1 So I first briefed the surveillance team, which was</p> <p>2 on Wednesday 29 January 2020, and this was the first</p> <p>3 point where the operation had gone from an unarmed</p> <p>4 status to an armed status.</p> <p>5 Q. We know, and we have seen the briefing pack which was</p> <p>6 used for that day, INQ002472. It's a briefing pack</p> <p>7 prepared on 28 January 2020. We can see that it's</p> <p>8 a firearms deployment, so it's for the day when the</p> <p>9 firearms officers are deployed, from the 29th.</p> <p>10 Who prepared that briefing pack?</p> <p>11 A. In relation to the planning team, there was a number of</p> <p>12 staff who are involved in preparing the briefing, and</p> <p>13 that version of the briefing, which is dated the 28th of</p> <p>14 the 1st 2020, was prepared by myself.</p> <p>15 Q. Now I'm not going to go through that with you because</p> <p>16 we've just seen it with the last witness, BX113, but it</p> <p>17 contains details of the background to the operation, the</p> <p>18 assessment of the subject as having attack aspirations</p> <p>19 and some previous incidents in surveillance which</p> <p>20 indicated potential anti-surveillance tactics being used</p> <p>21 and a possible third eye?</p> <p>22 A. Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>23 Q. It refers also to the subject's location, giving</p> <p>24 photographs, map, and so on. Is all that standard for</p> <p>25 such a briefing document?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 168</p>

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<p>1 A. Yes, that's correct, yes.</p> <p>2 Q. Did you use that briefing document yourself to assist in</p> <p>3 the briefing over the following days?</p> <p>4 A. Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you brief the team every day?</p> <p>6 A. No, I didn't brief the team every day.</p> <p>7 Q. Which days did you conduct briefings?</p> <p>8 A. So I briefed the team on -- let me have a look -- that</p> <p>9 was on Wednesday 28th January, then Saturday 1 February</p> <p>10 and Sunday 2 February 2020.</p> <p>11 Q. In advance of the briefing on the Saturday, so the</p> <p>12 second briefing you conducted, had you received</p> <p>13 an update on the intelligence from the operation?</p> <p>14 A. Yes, there was a number of intelligence updates and the</p> <p>15 first intelligence update was an image, as in the</p> <p>16 briefing pack, which was a mirror purchase, which</p> <p>17 involved some bottles, some masking tape and some tin</p> <p>18 foil. And there was also the subject committed or</p> <p>19 conducted a number of anti-surveillance techniques</p> <p>20 before he went and bought those purchases and there was</p> <p>21 other intelligence as well.</p> <p>22 Q. INQ003604, please.</p> <p>23 Is this the photograph of the purchases which had</p> <p>24 been made by Sudesh Amman on the 31st, or rather the</p> <p>25 mirror purchases of the same items?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 169</p>	<p>1 Q. Is that a view you formed just for yourself or had</p> <p>2 somebody else in SO15 or from any other agency confirmed</p> <p>3 or indicated that?</p> <p>4 A. Yes, the surveillance team the previous day and the</p> <p>5 surveillance officer who took those photographs had</p> <p>6 mentioned to the operations room that in -- you know, in</p> <p>7 their eyes, that those items could be used in a fake</p> <p>8 suicide belt or vest.</p> <p>9 Q. Were you aware what the investigation team, so the SO15</p> <p>10 investigation team, thought of these items?</p> <p>11 A. No, I didn't.</p> <p>12 Q. We've seen the recorded briefing of what you said on</p> <p>13 both the 1st and the 2nd. That doesn't contain the</p> <p>14 preliminary discussion you had about intelligence --</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. -- including about those items. Can you remember what</p> <p>17 you said in that preliminary discussion?</p> <p>18 A. Yes, so we discussed the mirror purchase and we also</p> <p>19 discussed some other intelligence.</p> <p>20 Q. What, overall, was the message you were seeking to get</p> <p>21 across to the teams?</p> <p>22 A. I believed that the operation in relation to threat</p> <p>23 level had risen, and I wanted to discuss with the</p> <p>24 surveillance team my concerns in relation to the subject</p> <p>25 and possibly, you know, if the subject went out to</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 171</p>
<p>1 A. Yes, the mirror purchases of the same items.</p> <p>2 Q. Did you use that photograph in giving a description of</p> <p>3 the purchases to the team on Saturday the 1st in advance</p> <p>4 of the main briefing?</p> <p>5 A. Yes, I did.</p> <p>6 Q. Now, this wasn't actually part of the briefing pack; it</p> <p>7 was physically separate from the main briefing pack --</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. -- used on the 1st and 2nd. Is that because it was</p> <p>10 particularly recent topical information that you were</p> <p>11 just getting through?</p> <p>12 A. Very recent, yes.</p> <p>13 Q. What did you tell the team about the significance of</p> <p>14 those items?</p> <p>15 A. So this -- this mirror purchase image, when I saw this</p> <p>16 image, you know, it came out more concerned in relation</p> <p>17 to the operation, and I just explained that these --</p> <p>18 these items were purchased by the subject on that day,</p> <p>19 and this was a mirror image of those purchases to the</p> <p>20 surveillance team.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you tell the team anything about what those</p> <p>22 purchases might signify, what the subject might do with</p> <p>23 them?</p> <p>24 A. Yes. With those purchases, I had an honest-held belief</p> <p>25 that those items could be used in a fake suicide belt.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 170</p>	<p>1 commit a terrorist attack.</p> <p>2 Q. How did you articulate those concerns? How did you</p> <p>3 express them on the day, so far as you can remember?</p> <p>4 A. Yes, I just -- yes, I just basically spoke to the</p> <p>5 surveillance team and we had a discussion in relation to</p> <p>6 the separate intelligence and that image. We thought</p> <p>7 it -- that the risk had heightened and we -- and</p> <p>8 literally that was what was discussed.</p> <p>9 Q. Now, we may hear from a number of the surveillance</p> <p>10 officers, at least based on their written witness</p> <p>11 statements, that you came across as unusually serious,</p> <p>12 concerned that day, that I think some of them describe</p> <p>13 you as normally being quite a bubbly character and that</p> <p>14 you were entirely sombre, serious and concerned that</p> <p>15 day?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Is that right?</p> <p>18 A. That is correct, yes. And, you know, I'm a jovial</p> <p>19 character. I have been doing this job for six years,</p> <p>20 and just in relation to the intelligence which was in</p> <p>21 this job, yes, I was extremely concerned for their</p> <p>22 safety and the members of the public's safety as well.</p> <p>23 Q. What was it about the intelligence you'd had by that</p> <p>24 Saturday that led you to be unusually sombre, even for</p> <p>25 your important and serious job?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 172</p>

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<p>1 A. Well, in relation to particular intelligence, I can't 2 unfortunately answer that question. 3 Q. Now, I think we've heard from the SIO that there hadn't 4 been specific developments in the intelligence over 5 the -- secret intelligence over the previous days which 6 changed the picture. Are you simply referring to 7 intelligence suggesting that this was an individual who 8 had exhibited or expressed intentions to carry out 9 an attack? 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. Was that general concern arising from that intelligence 12 heightened as a result of the purchases? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. We have seen the transcript of the briefing that you 15 gave after that initial discussion so I'm not going to 16 go back over that. You ran through the briefing pack 17 and its various elements before the team leader went 18 into his part of the briefing concerning the firearms -- 19 A. Yes. 20 Q. -- aspects. 21 Later that Saturday, did you review and update the 22 briefing pack? 23 A. I did. The -- I -- in relation to an update of the 24 briefing pack, I put in in relation to the 25 anti-surveillance the subject committed and before he</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 173</p>	<p>1 A. The Friday, yes. 2 Q. Were you in fact aware that on previous days even before 3 that Friday there were also some sightings of him 4 conducting behaviour which was thought to be potentially 5 anti-surveillance? 6 A. Yes, that is correct. 7 Q. So in writing this for the pack which was to be used 8 from that Sunday, you weren't suggesting that this was 9 an entirely new development? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Then is it right that you conducted a briefing on the 12 Sunday morning, following through the pack again and 13 reminding the team of the purchases you described the 14 previous day? 15 A. Yes, that's correct. 16 MR HOUGH: Thank you very much, those are all my questions. 17 It may be that we can finish this witness today 18 depending upon the length of others. 19 Questions by MR MENON 20 MR MENON: In fact, I only have one topic and I'll be very 21 brief. 22 Officer, I ask questions on behalf of the family. 23 It's that final point I want to come back to in the 24 three lines you were shown in respect of the briefing 25 pack on 2 February.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 175</p>
<p>1 bought these items, which you can see in the image. 2 Q. Yes, put on screen INQ002476. Page 3. 3 Is this right, it's just those top three lines which 4 you added to the pack -- 5 A. Yes, that's correct. 6 Q. -- on that Saturday during the day? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. Just to be clear, why did you add these lines into this 9 pack as opposed to previous packs? 10 A. So basically this intel, in relation to a conventional 11 briefing, so it depends who is in the office at the time 12 of when this intel comes through. This line in relation 13 to anti-surveillance is always added to a briefing and 14 that could be -- that is for the attention of all 15 surveillance teams who actually deploy on that 16 operation. So this wasn't specifically for team 3; this 17 was for each team who would go out on this operation to 18 let them know that the subject was now committing 19 anti-surveillance techniques. 20 Q. Now, what day's observations were you referring to when 21 you said that he had started conducting 22 anti-surveillance -- 23 A. Yes, this was the day when he went and bought the 24 purchases. 25 Q. So the Friday the --</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 174</p>	<p>1 So you were aware that Mr Amman had been seen by 2 surveillance officers engaging in behaviour that could 3 potentially be described as anti-surveillance for quite 4 a few days prior to 2 February; you knew that, didn't 5 you? 6 A. It was minor. In relation to on the Friday of when he 7 had purchased, this is when he displayed a lot more 8 anti-surveillance -- 9 Q. I agree. I've no dispute there. The Friday was the 10 game-changer, I agree with you. 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. I am just trying to do it quickly rather than take you 13 through all the logs, but I put to you, for the 14 avoidance of doubt, that if one looks at the individual 15 logs on the 26th, 27th, the 28th, there are mentions in 16 those logs specifically of what could be regarded as 17 anti-surveillance techniques, so that was the -- sorry, 18 and the 29th. So that was before the 31st when he made 19 the purchases? 20 A. In relation to the Friday, that was the only time when 21 I prepared the briefing. On previous days before that, 22 which you mentioned the previous possibly 23 anti-surveillance, I did not put the briefing pack 24 together for that. 25 Q. Okay, that's fine. If it's a contentious issue, I'll</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 176</p>

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1 deal with it with others.
 2 But clearly for you, given the seriousness and the
 3 sombreness of your mood on the 2nd, you recognised that
 4 those purchases were a significant escalation in terms
 5 of the intelligence about the risk that this man posed.
 6 You recognised that, didn't you?
 7 **A. I recognised that plus also with the additional**
 8 **intelligence which I received that day.**
 9 Q. Understood. And that was what you were trying to
 10 indicate to the officers who were present at that
 11 briefing on 2 February?
 12 **A. Yes.**
 13 Q. Is that right?
 14 Just one second.
 15 (Pause)
 16 I don't want to put you in an awkward position, so
 17 if you feel you can't answer this question please say
 18 so, but in addition to what the jury have already been
 19 told about Mr Amman's behaviour on 31 January when he
 20 visited three shops, was looking -- was showing
 21 an interest in cutlery in one shop, in tools in another
 22 shop, and in a third shop bought the purchase. In
 23 addition to that, was there any other intelligence as to
 24 his risk that you are able -- well, firstly, did you
 25 give the officers any other information other than what

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1 questions.
 2 MR HOUGH: And that's all we have for you. Thank you.
 3 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Thank you very much.
 4 MR HOUGH: So that's the end of today's evidence.
 5 MR JUSTICE HILLIARD: Yes, thank you.
 6 All right. So, members of the jury, we'll break off
 7 there, please, until 10.00 tomorrow morning. All right?
 8 Thank you.
 9 (4.45 pm)
 10 (The court adjourned until
 11 Tuesday 10 August 2021 at 10.00 am)
 12
 13 BX88 (sworn)1
 14 Questions by MR HOUGH1
 15 Questions by MR MENON24
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 24 Questions by MR SHELDON159
 25 BX174 (sworn)165
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1 I've just summarised?
 2 **A. Yes, I did.**
 3 Q. Okay. And is that information that you don't feel you
 4 can indicate at this inquest today?
 5 **A. I can't answer that question, unfortunately.**
 6 MR MENON: You can't even answer it?
 7 Very well, I won't press you, I'll deal with it
 8 differently. Thank you very much.
 9 Questions by MR SHELDON
 10 MR SHELDON: Just in relation to that last question, I think
 11 I can address it in this way. A number of the
 12 surveillance officers have said in their statements
 13 comments which have been summarised in national security
 14 safe ways as indicating that you gave them intelligence
 15 to the effect that Sudesh Amman retained an extremist
 16 mindset and had aspirations to carry out an attack.
 17 **A. Yes.**
 18 Q. Is it correct that that was the nature of the
 19 intelligence that you gave?
 20 **A. Yes, that's correct.**
 21 Q. But that you did not give them any intelligence of
 22 specific attack planning or attack preparations by
 23 Sudesh Amman?
 24 **A. No.**
 25 MR SHELDON: Thank you very much, those are all my

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